


PRINCE JIVAKA

Kattiyangaran, the treacherous minister of Hemangada, kills the royal family and usurps the throne. Queen Vijaya escapes the slaughter. She gives birth to a son and puts his father's royal ring upon his finger. The child grows up to be Prince Jivaka.


Jivaka has many adventures and regains the throne. But the core of the book becomes apparent when, at the end of the story, a weary Jivaka decides to renounce his kingdom and become a Jain monk.

The story is taken from Jivaka Chintamani, an epic poem in Tamil. It was written by a young Jain monk, Tirutakkatevar, and is considered one of the classics of Sangam literature (300 BC - 300 AD).

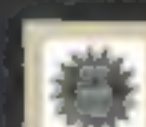
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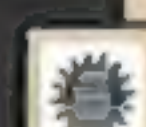


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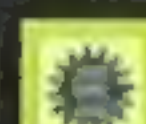


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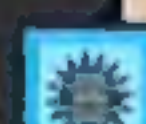


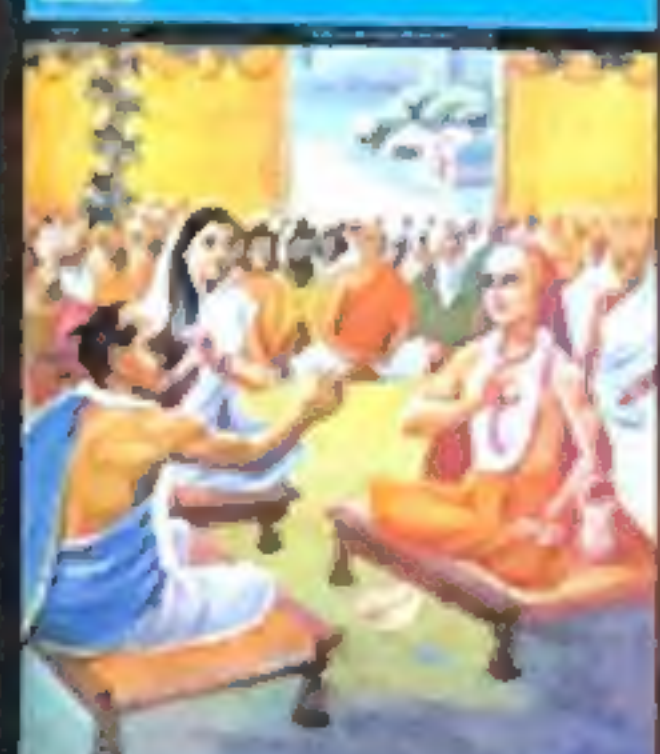
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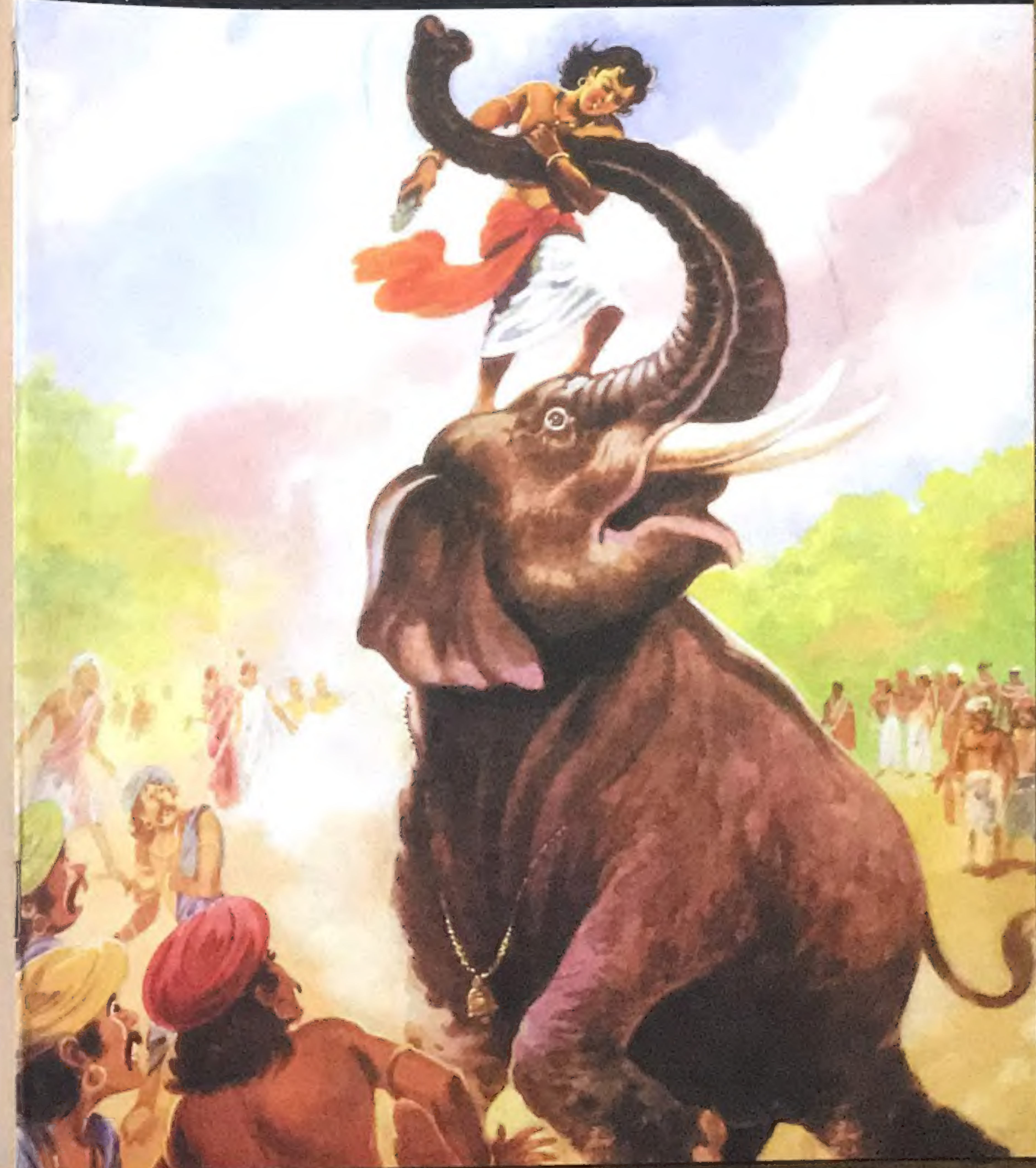
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PRINCE JIVAKA

FROM THE EPIC TAMIL POEM, JIVAKA CHINTAMANI

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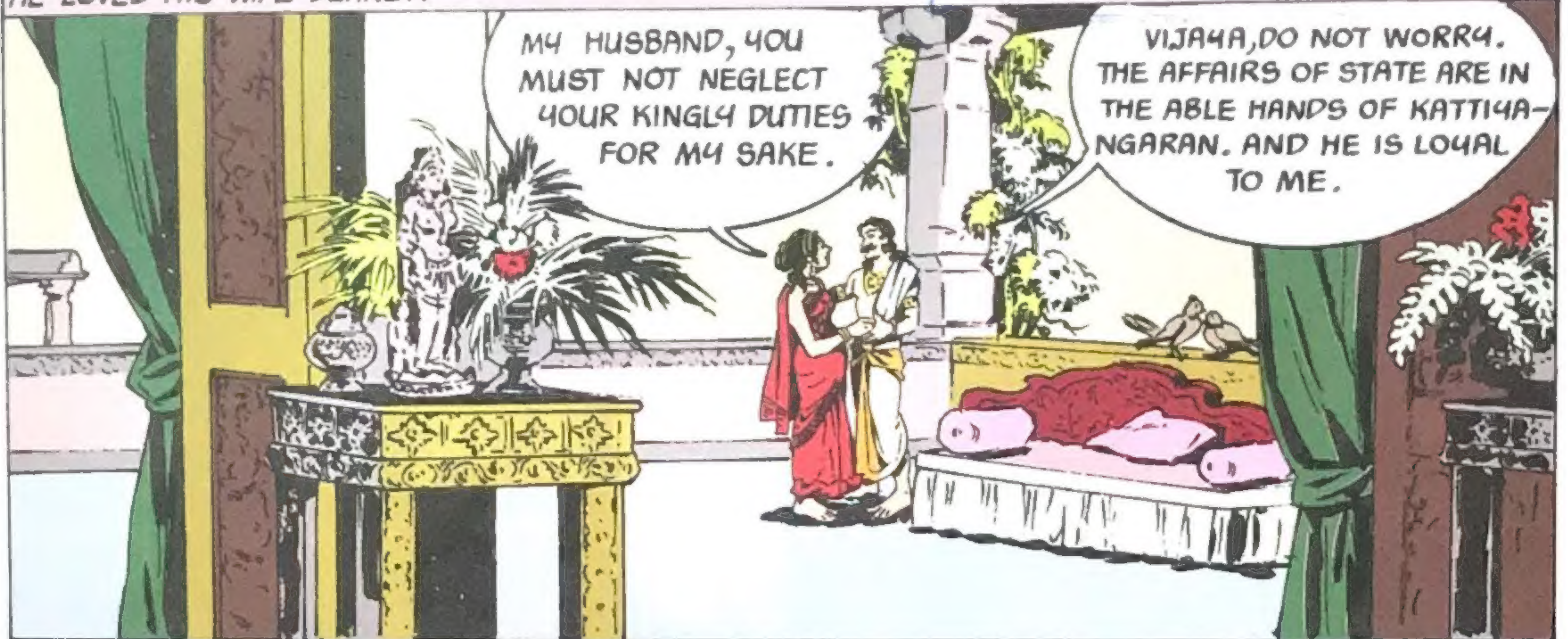
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JIWAKA

KING SACHCHANDAN OF THE KURU DYNASTY RULED AT RAJAMAPURAM, THE CAPITAL OF HEMANGADA. HE LOVED HIS WIFE DEARLY.



BUT KATTIYANGARAN WAS FAR FROM LOYAL TO THE KING. FOR AT THAT MOMENT IN THE COURT -

STAY WHERE YOU ARE, MINISTERS! I HAVE SEIZED POWER AND AM THE KING NOW. ALL MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL FAMILY SHALL BE PUT TO DEATH.



A MEMBER OF THE GUARD IMMEDIATELY RUSHED TO THE KING -

YOUR MAJESTY, ALL IS LOST! KATTIYANGARAN HAS USURPED THE THRONE. HE HAS DECLARED HE WILL WIPE OUT THE ROYAL FAMILY.

OH NO... THIS IS TERRIBLE.

VIJAYA, YOU MUST GO AWAY AT ONCE.



NO, I WILL NOT GO ANYWHERE WITHOUT YOU.

VIJAYA, OUR UNBORN CHILD MUST BE OUR MAIN CONCERN NOW.



THE KING MADE ARRANGEMENTS FOR VIJAYA'S ESCAPE...



...IN A SPECIAL FLYING MACHINE, THE QUEEN ESCAPED IN IT RELUCTANTLY.



AFTER TAKING LEAVE OF HIS WIFE, SACHCHANDAN THEN RODE BACK TO RAJAMAPURAM AND CHALLENGED KATTIYANGARAN TO A FIGHT.

I AM READY FOR YOU, MOST BASE AND WICKED TRAITOR!



AAH...!

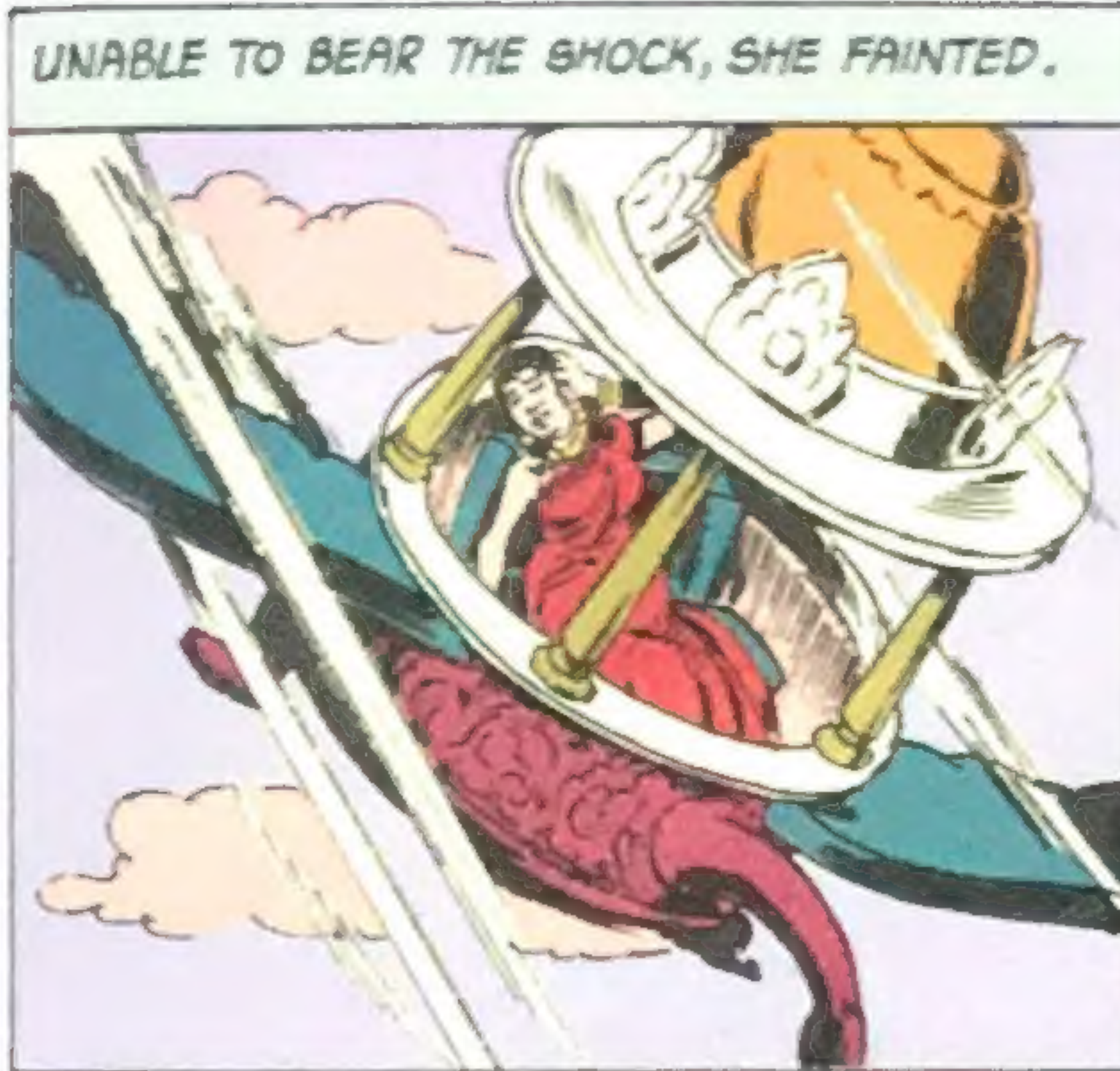


ANNOUNCE IT LOUD AND CLEAR, "SACHCHANDAN IS DEAD; LONG LIVE KATTIYANGARAN!"

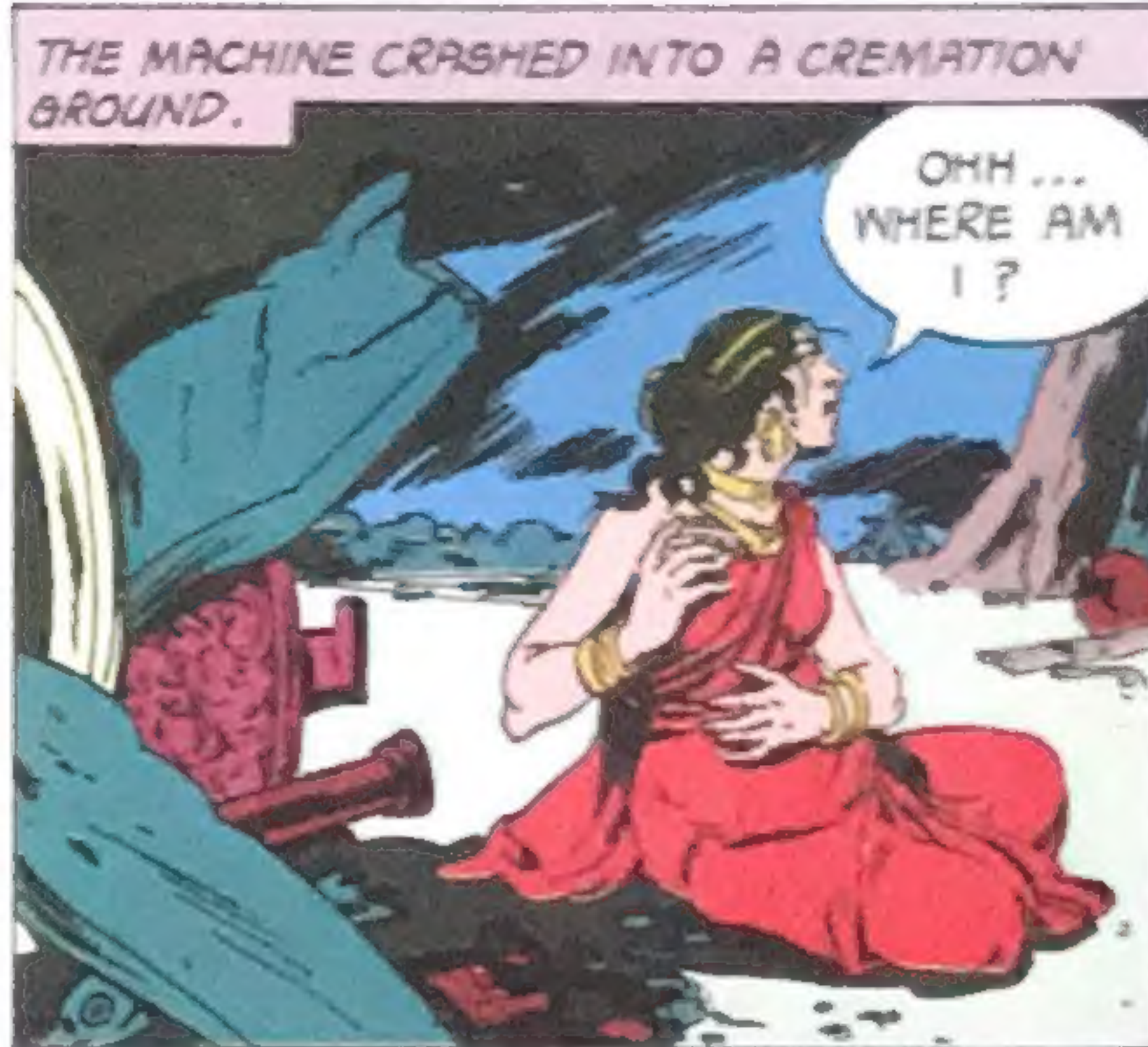


THE SOLDIERS RODE ROUND THE TOWN PROCLAIMING THE NEWS. THE QUEEN ALSO HAPPENED TO HEAR IT.

SACHCHANDAN IS DEAD. LONG LIVE KATTIYANGARAN!



UNABLE TO BEAR THE SHOCK, SHE FAINTED.



THE MACHINE CRASHED INTO A CREMATION GROUND.

OH! ... WHERE AM I?



THAT NIGHT VIJAYA GAVE BIRTH TO A SON.

O FATHERLESS CHILD, I WILL HAVE TO ABANDON YOU. BUT FIRST I WILL PUT THE ROYAL RING ON YOUR FINGER...



...GOODBYE, MY SON.

AND THE WEeping VIJAYA LEFT THE GROUND.



SOON A MERCHANT CAME TO THE CREMATION-GROUND WITH HIS DEAD CHILD.

CRUEL FATE, DID YOU GIVE ME JOY, ONLY TO SNATCH IT AWAY IN A MOMENT?



NO MORE CAN YOU SLEEP IN A CRADLE, MY SON, BUT INSTEAD YOU WILL SLEEP ON A FLAMING PYRE...



...WHAT... IS THIS?



SOON, ONE DAY, KANDUKKADAN HAD A VISITOR.

I COME IN SECRETLY. I BELONG TO THE ROYAL FAMILY OF SACHCHANDAN. I LEARNT FROM TRUSTED SPIES THAT THERE IS A ROYAL CHILD IN YOUR HOUSE.

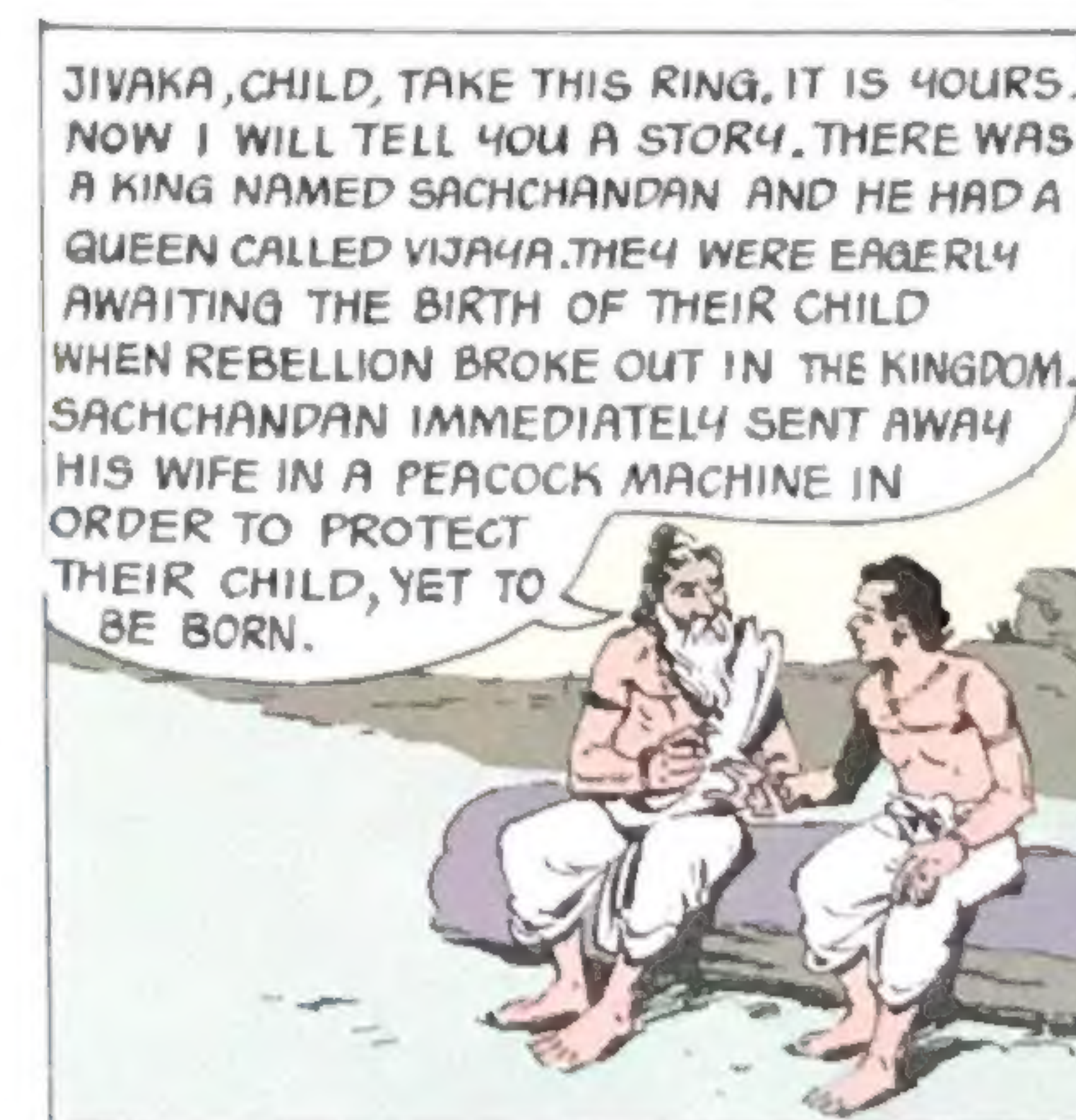
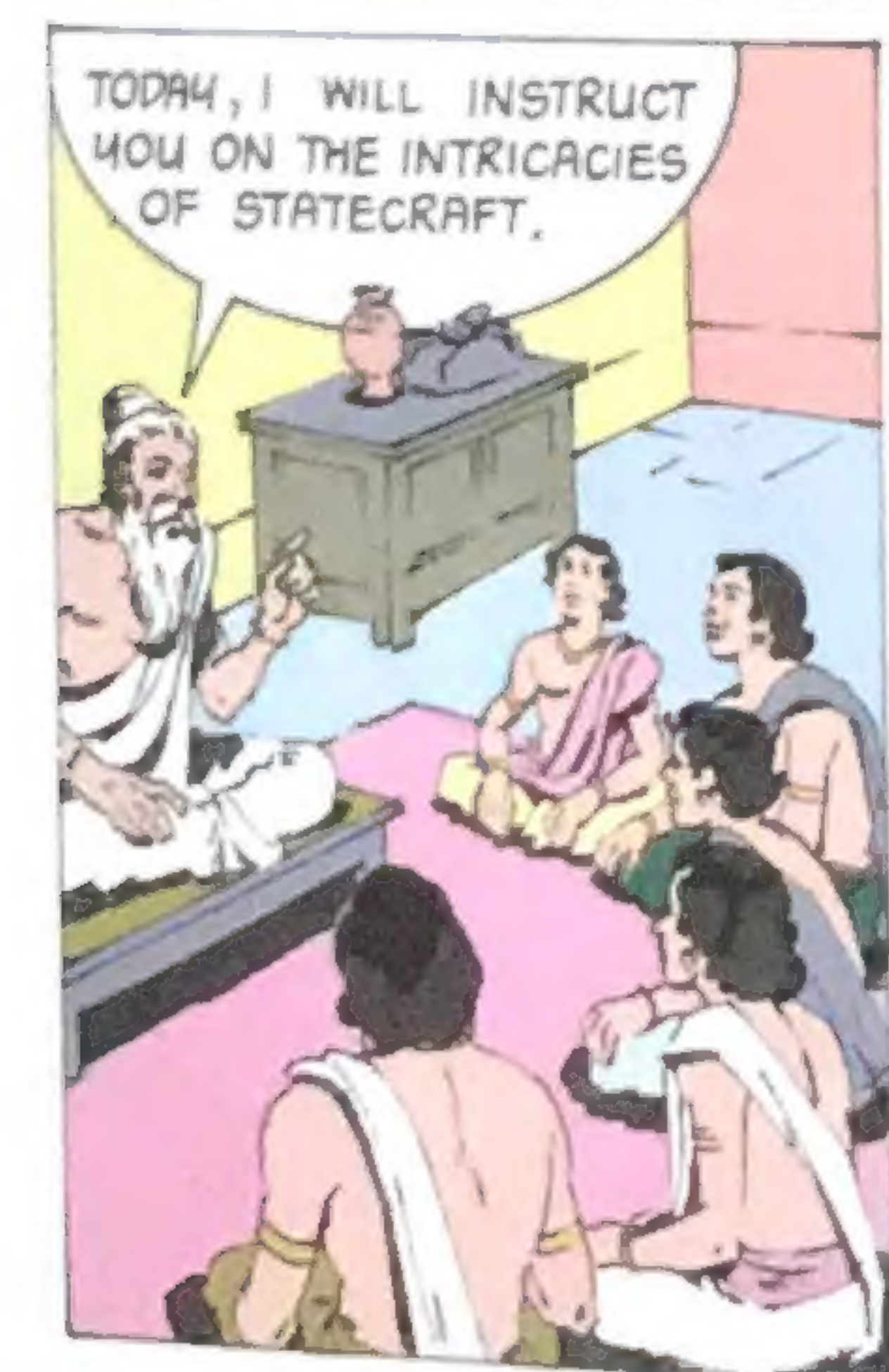
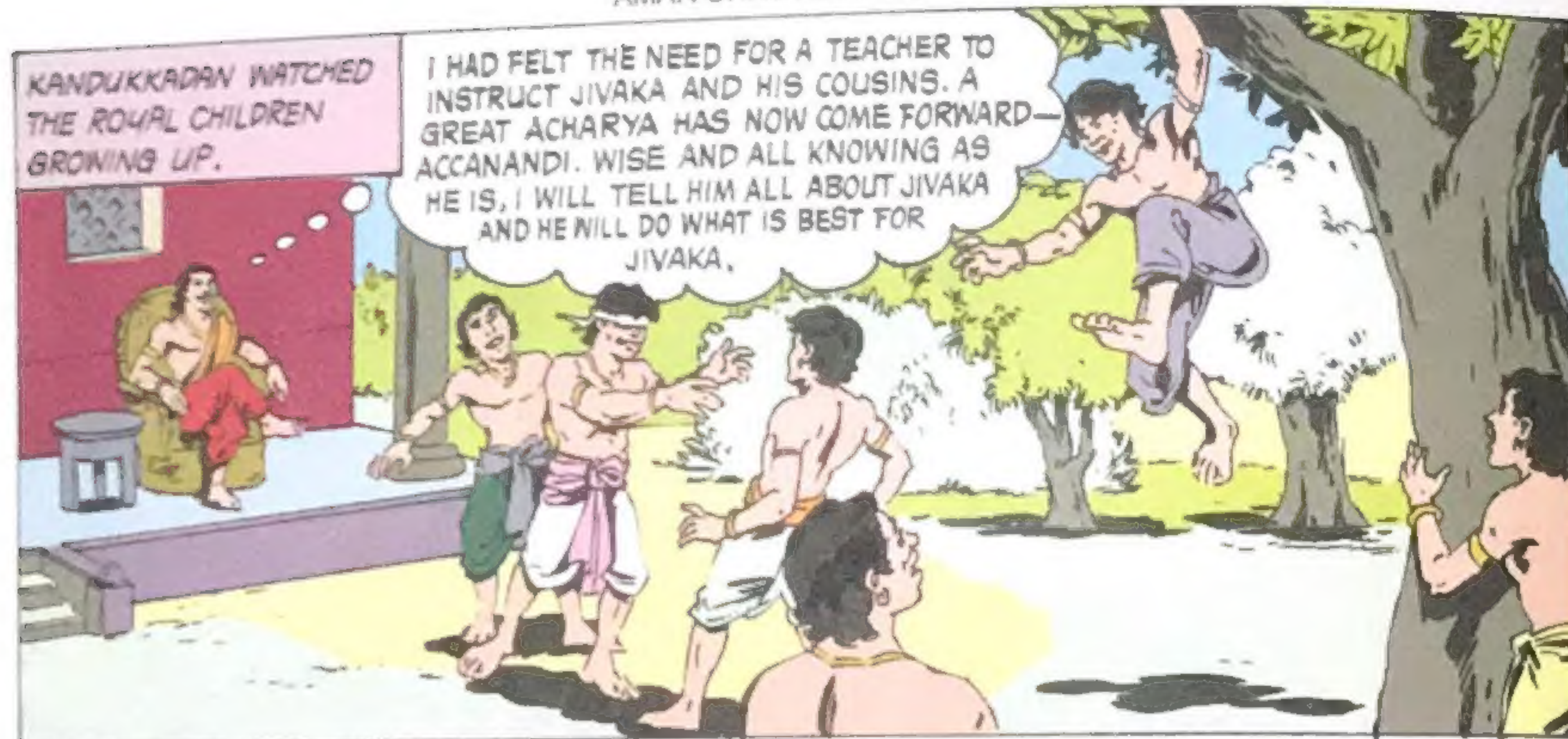
YOU KNOW WHO THIS CHILD IS. PROBABLY YOU ALSO KNOW THAT EVERY CHILD OF THE ROYAL FAMILY IS UNDER THREAT FROM KATTIYANGARAN.

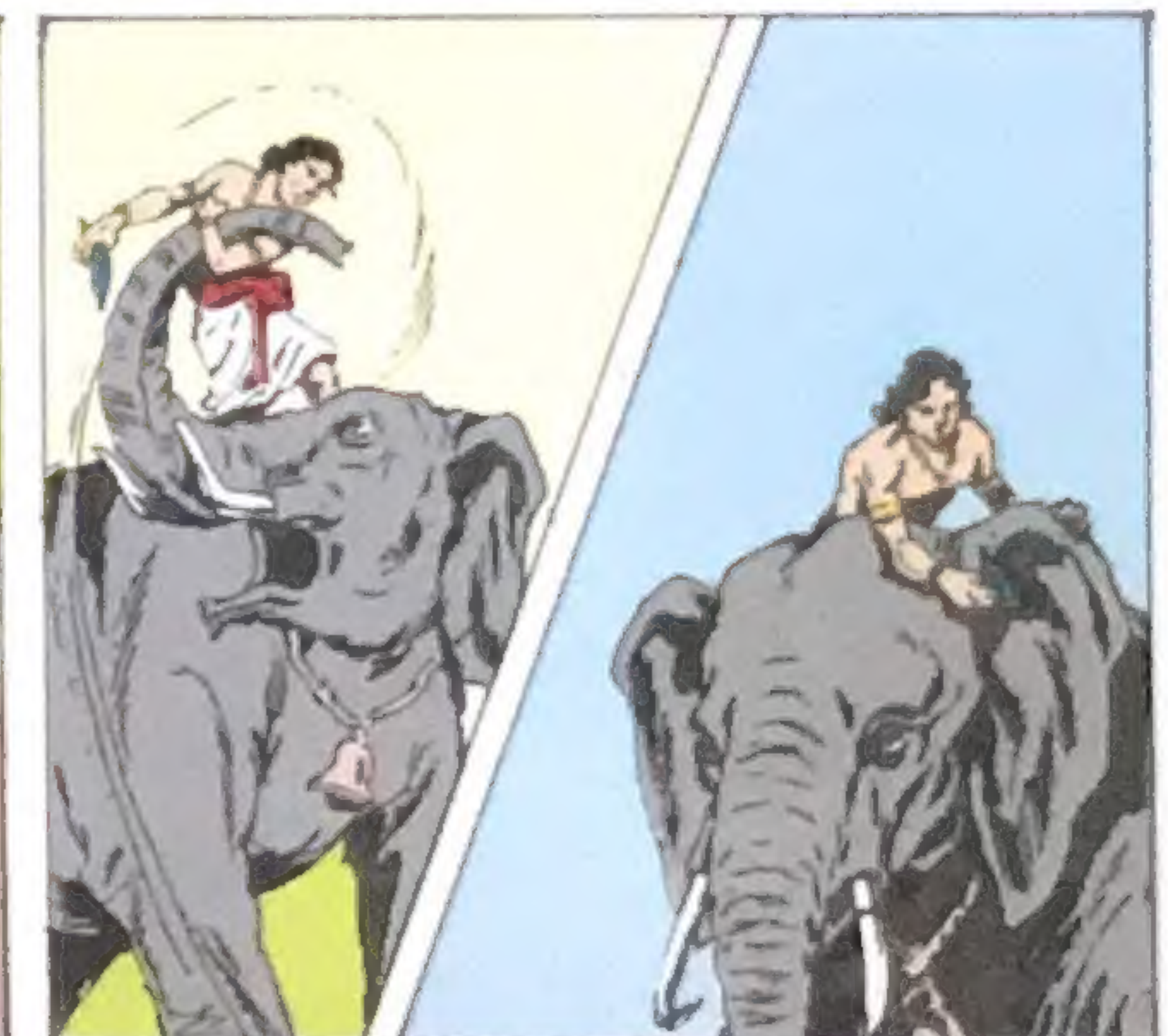
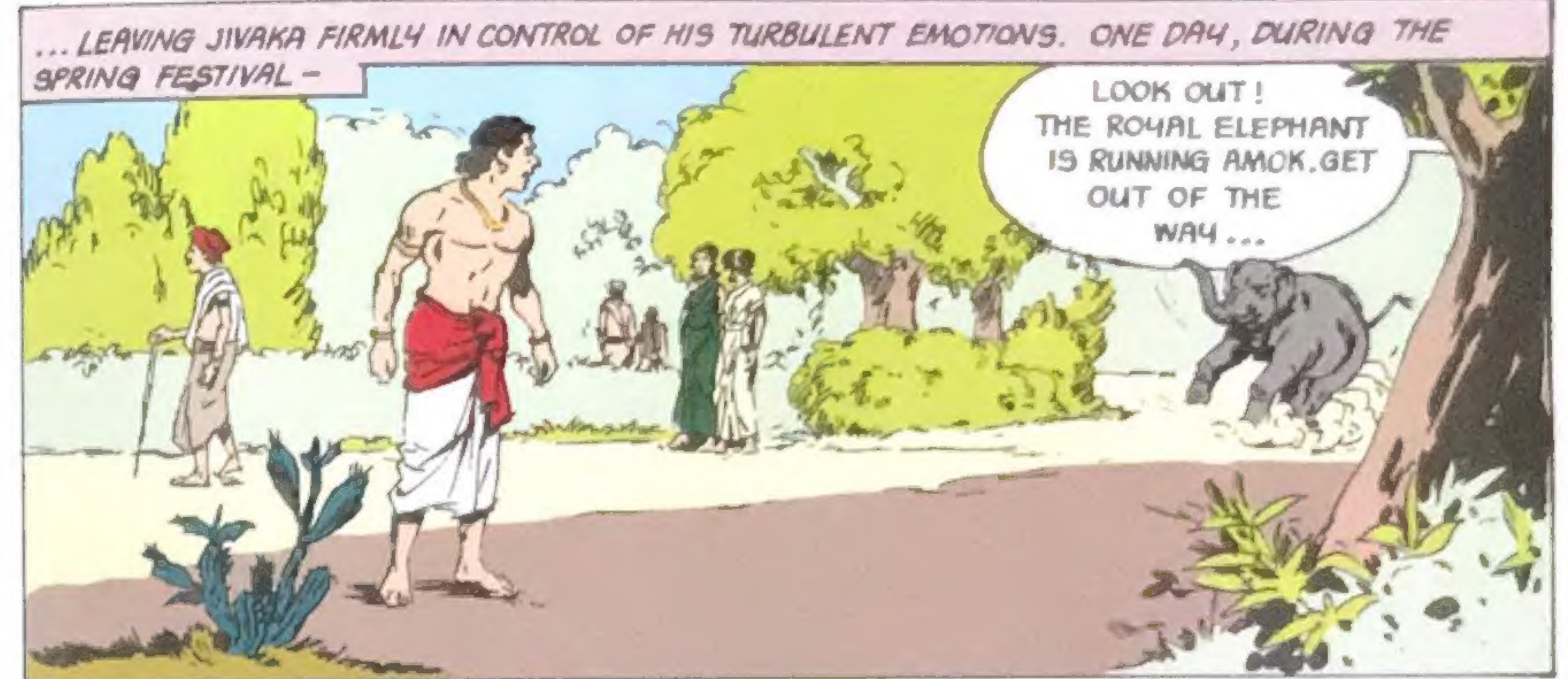
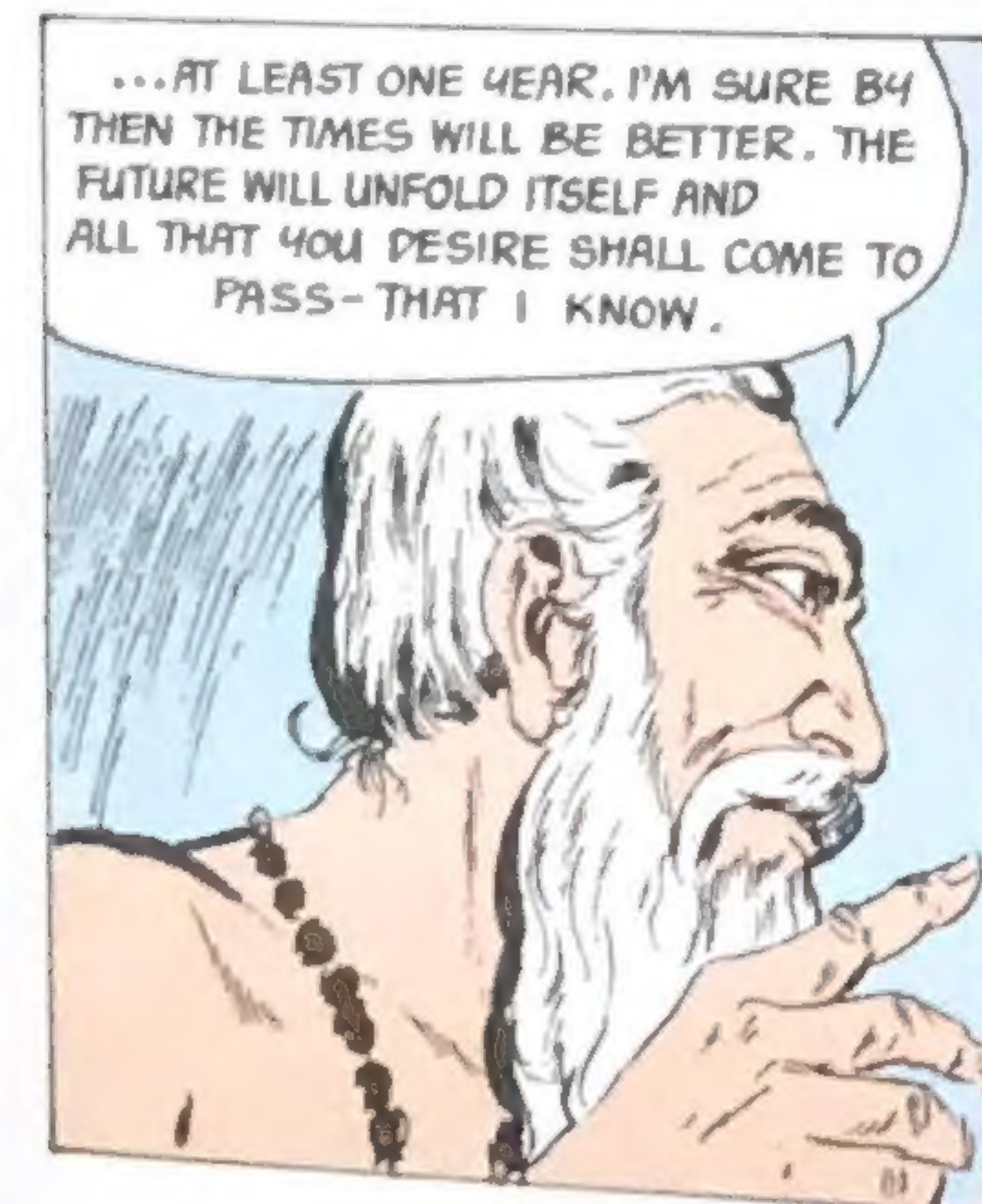
I REQUEST YOU; PLEASE CARE FOR THESE OTHER CHILDREN AS WELL. SAFEGUARD THEM.

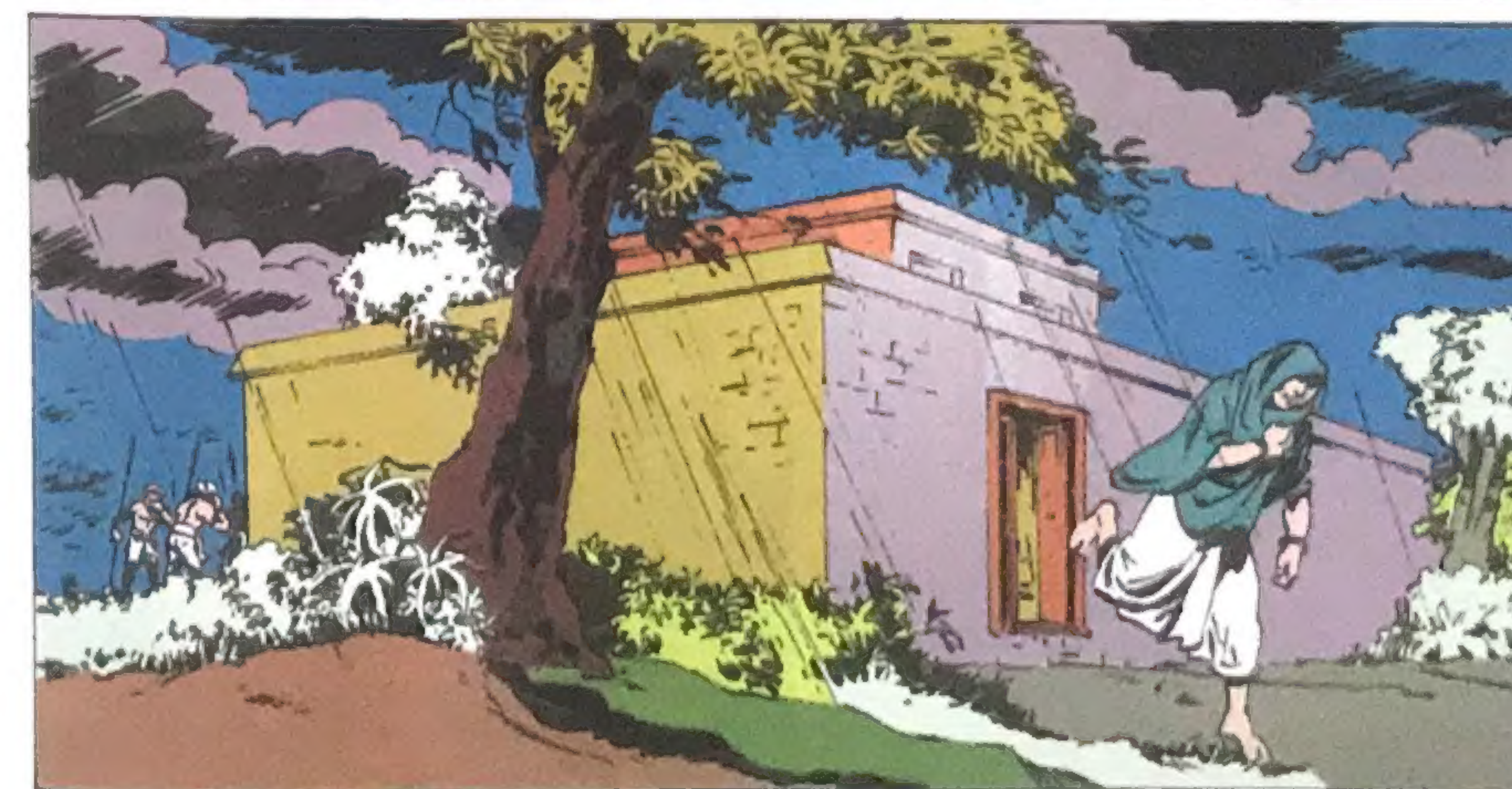
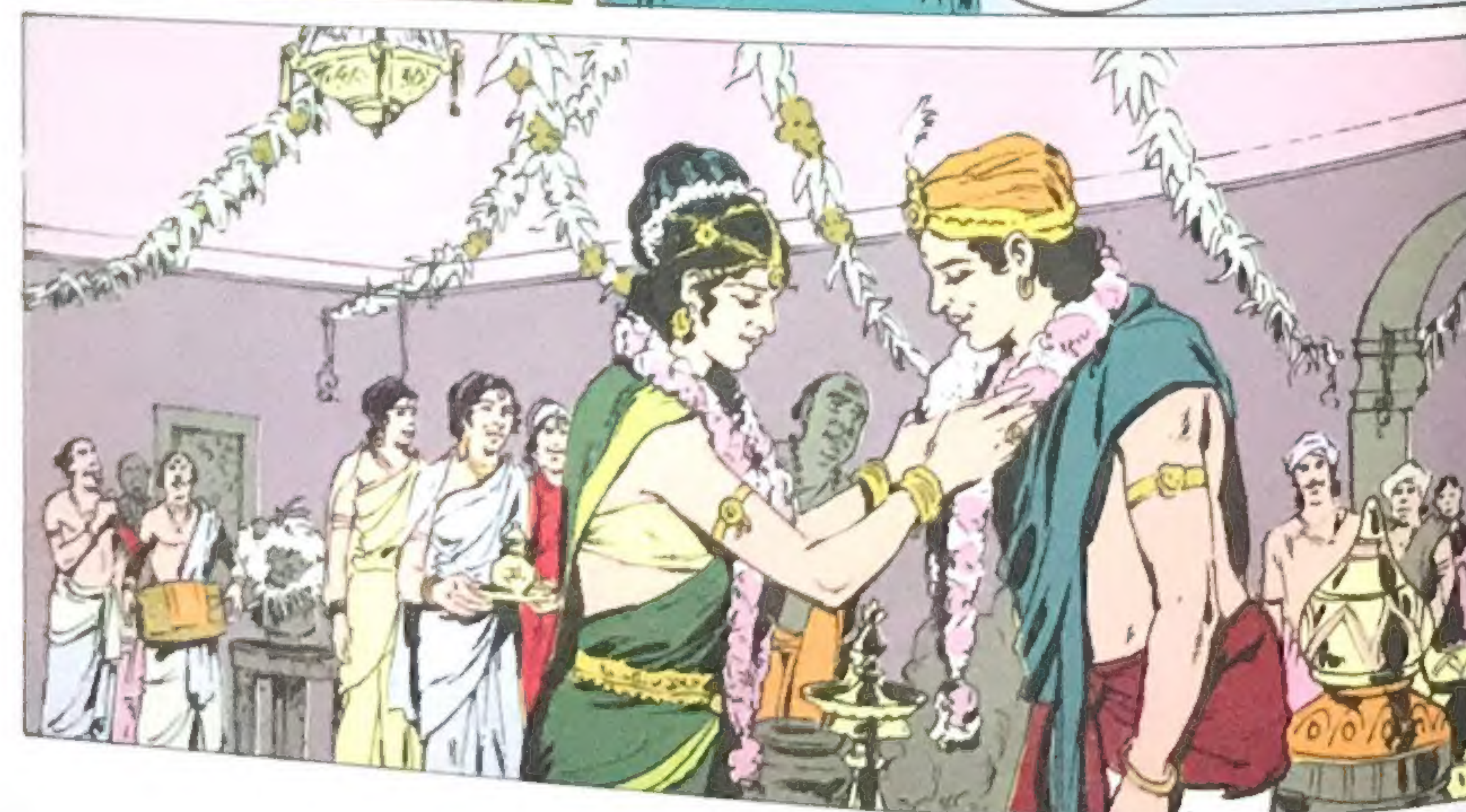
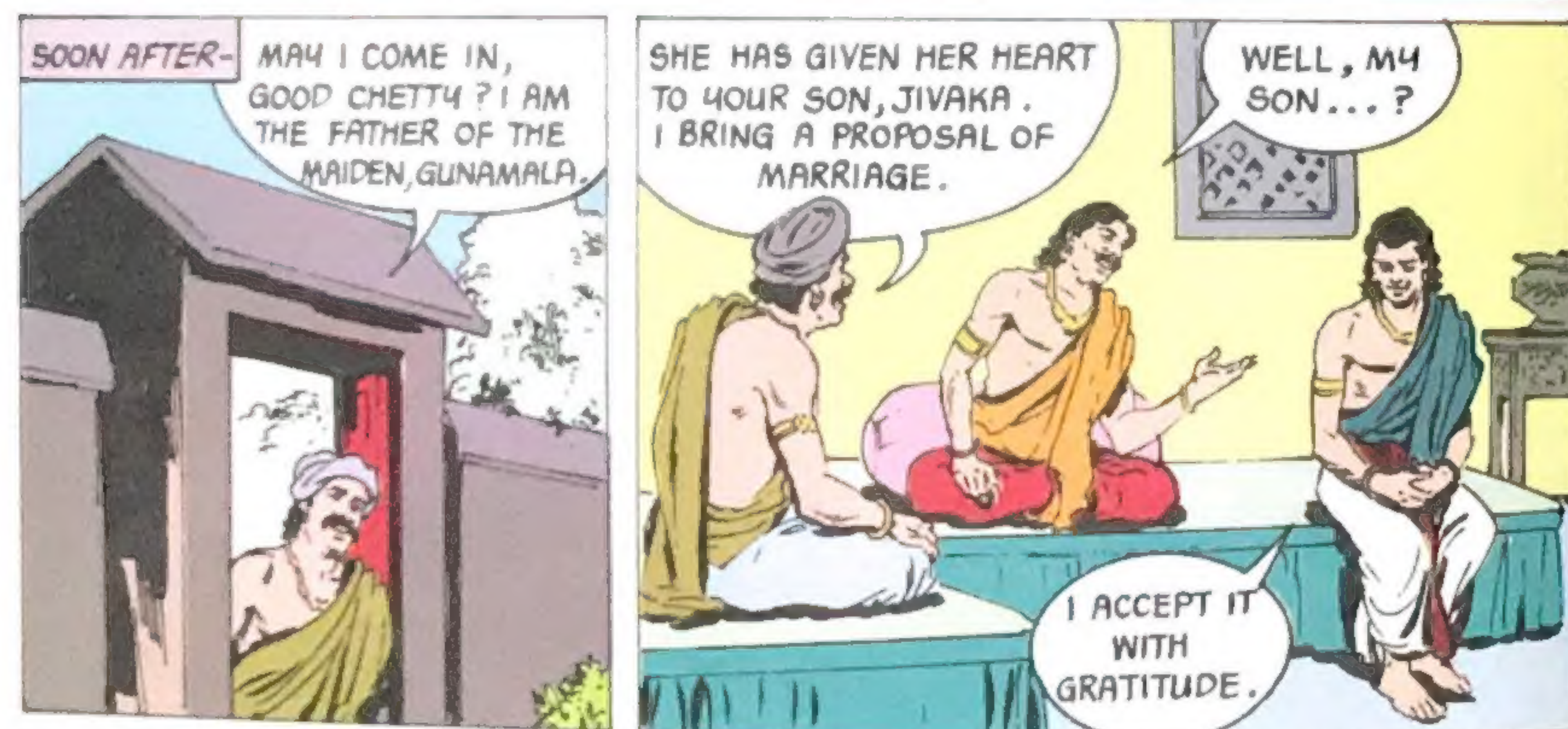
I WILL DO IT AS A SACRED DUTY TO MY KING.

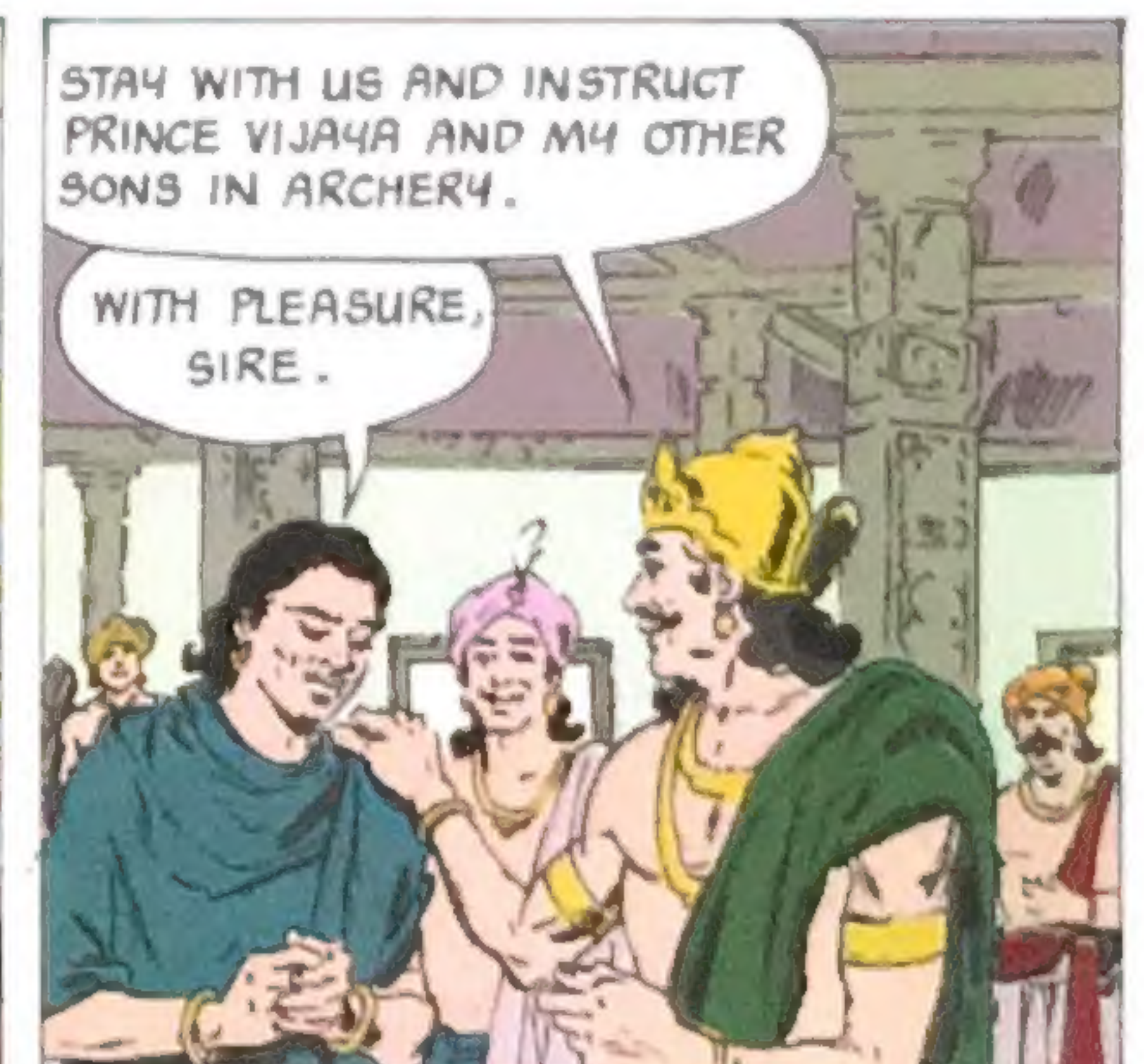
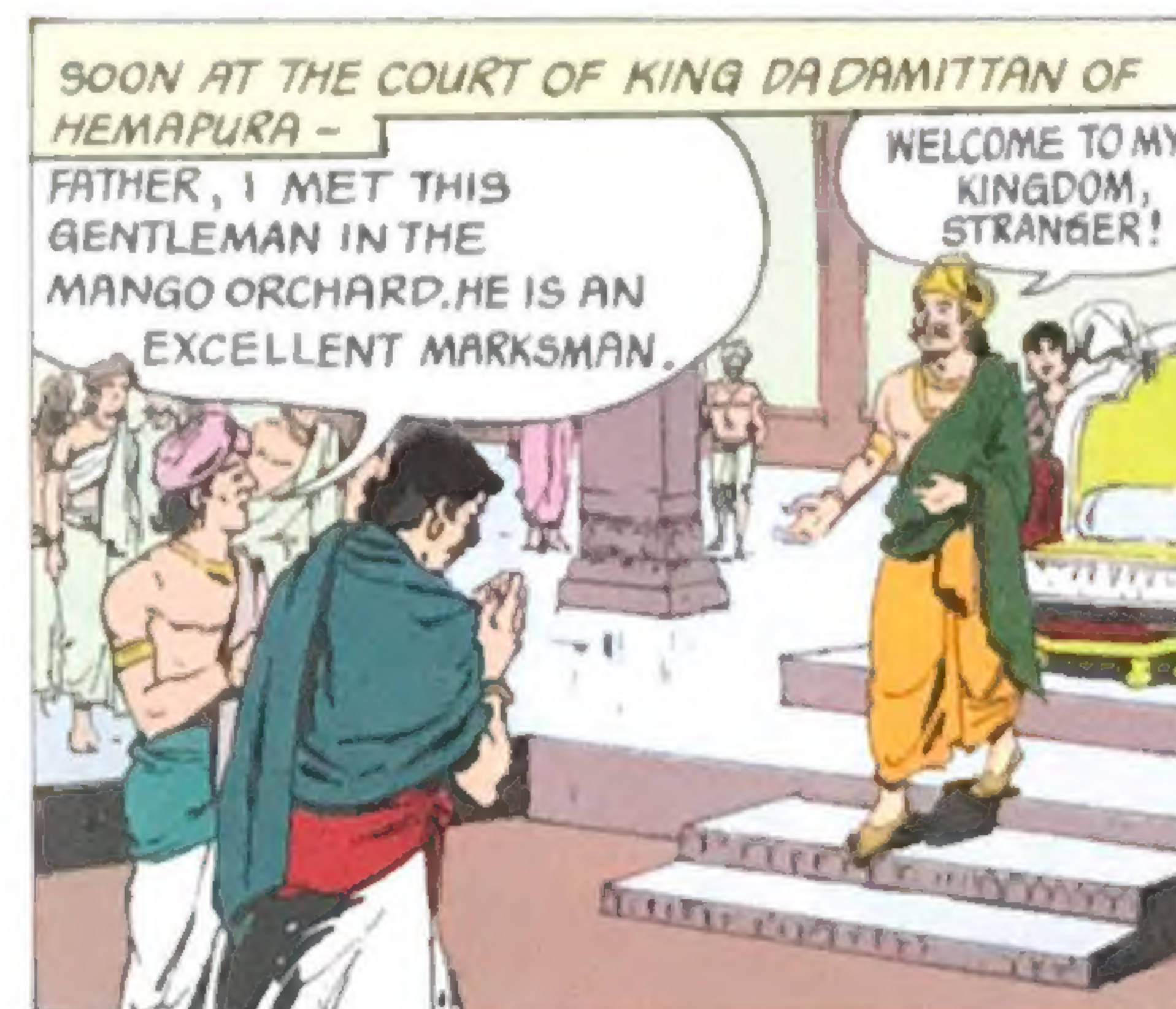
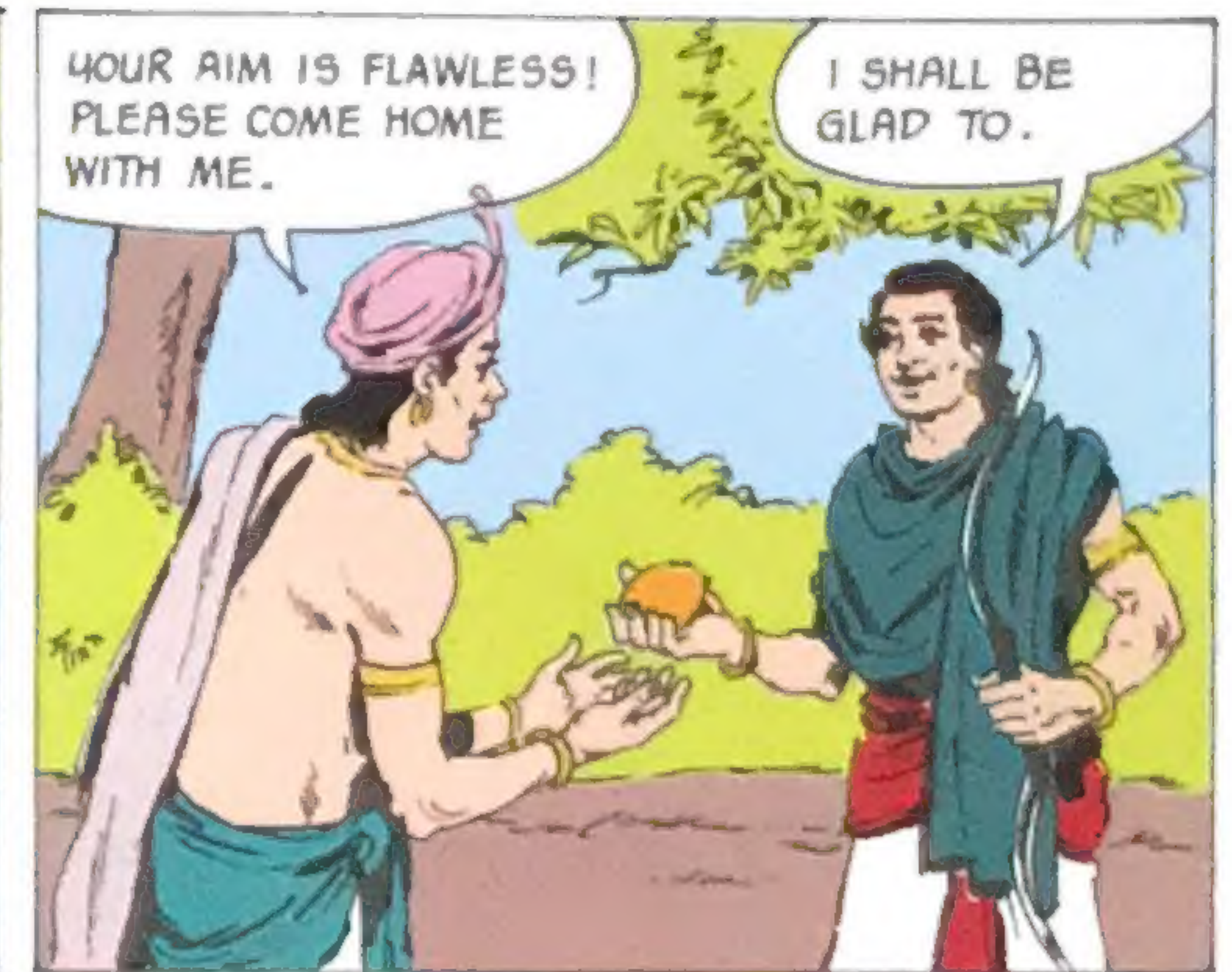
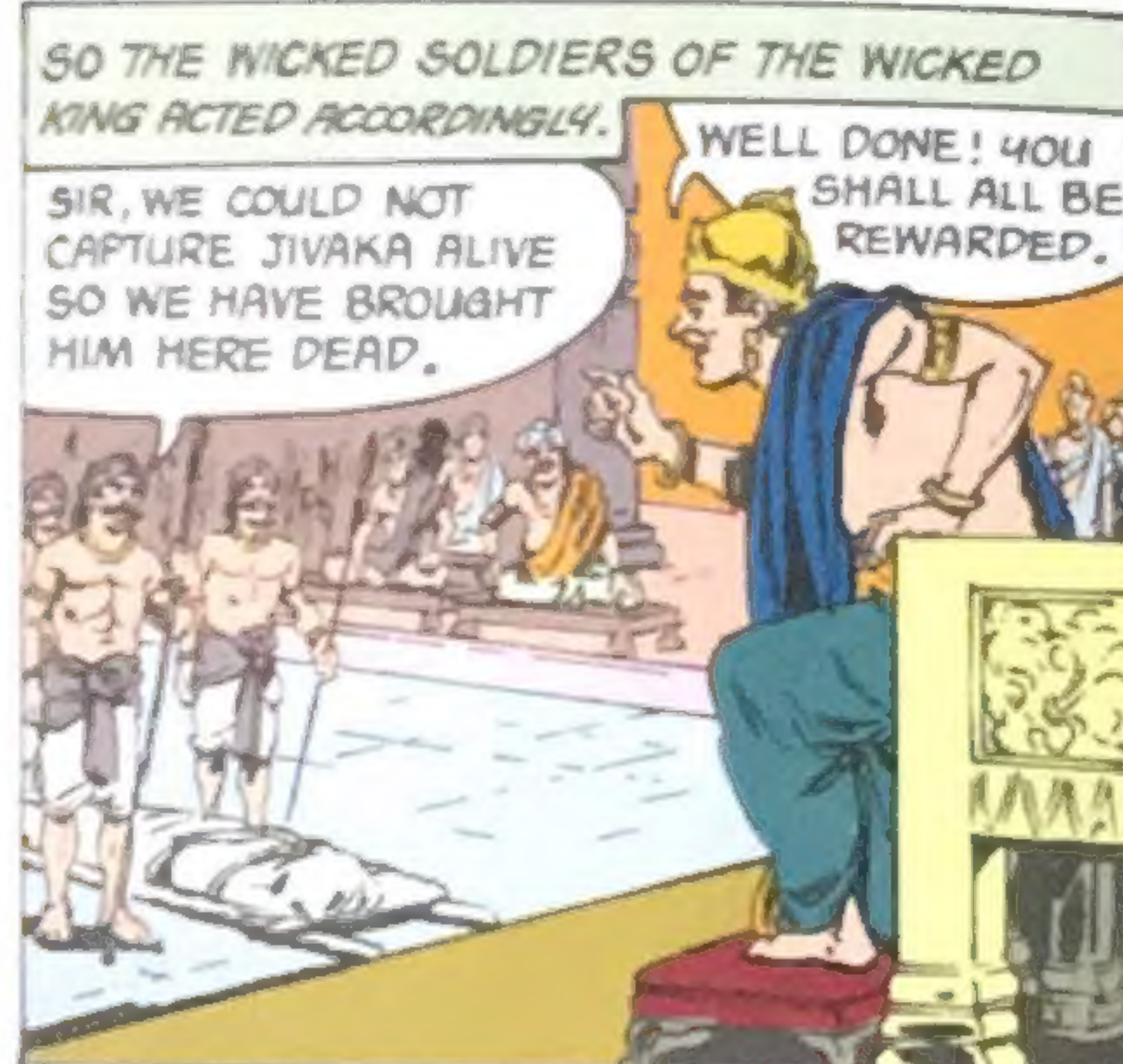
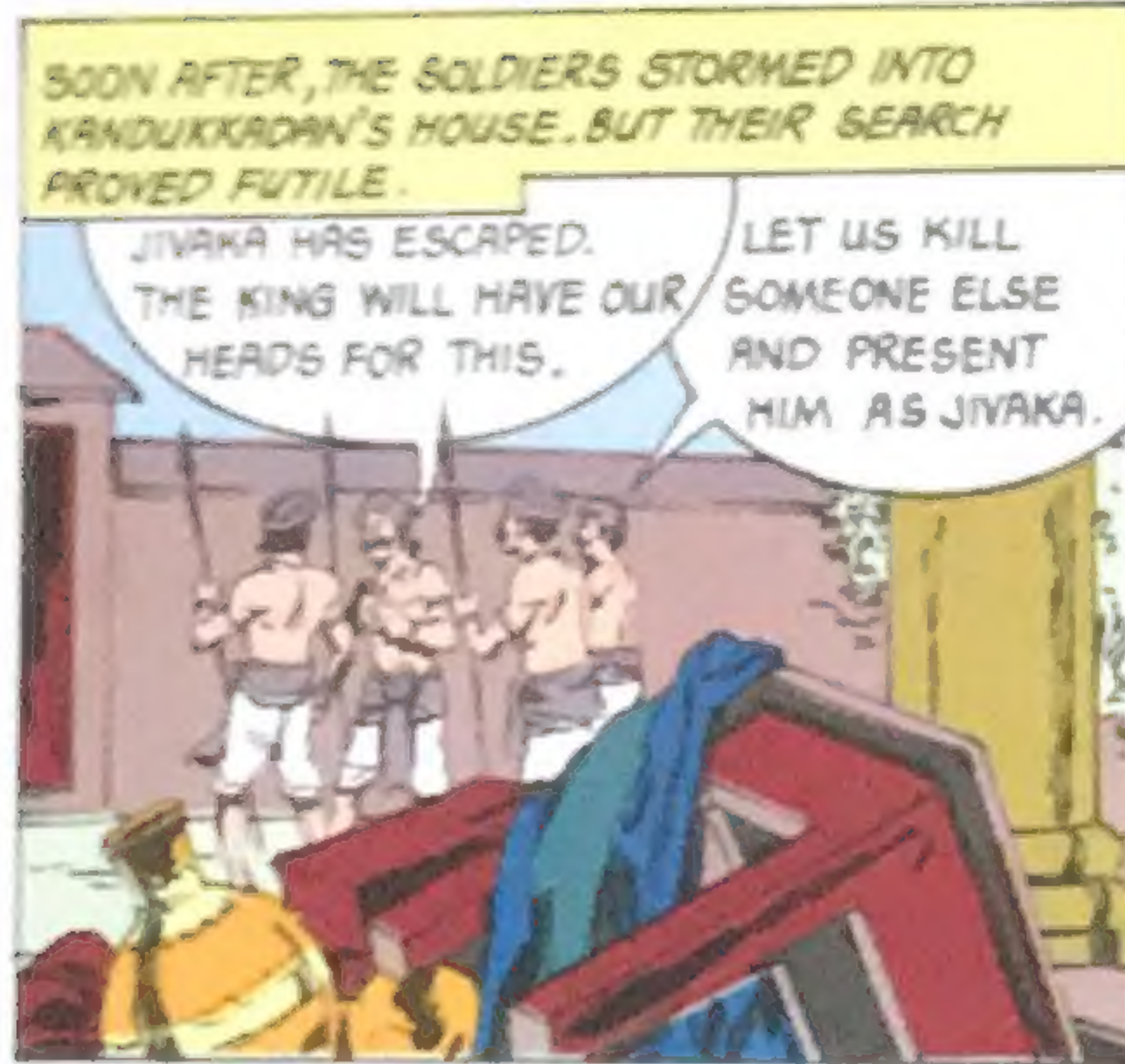
SOON AFTER THIS, KANDUKKADAN AND SUNANDA WERE BLESSED WITH ANOTHER SON WHOM THEY NAMED NANDATTAN.

JIVAKA AND NANDATTAN HAVE BECOME INSEPARABLE. MAY THEIR LOVE FOR EACH OTHER GROW STRONGER EVERY DAY.









MEANWHILE, KANDUKKADAN'S SON, NANDATTAN, HAD SET OUT IN SEARCH OF JIVAKA AND FOUND HIM AT LAST IN HEMAPURA.

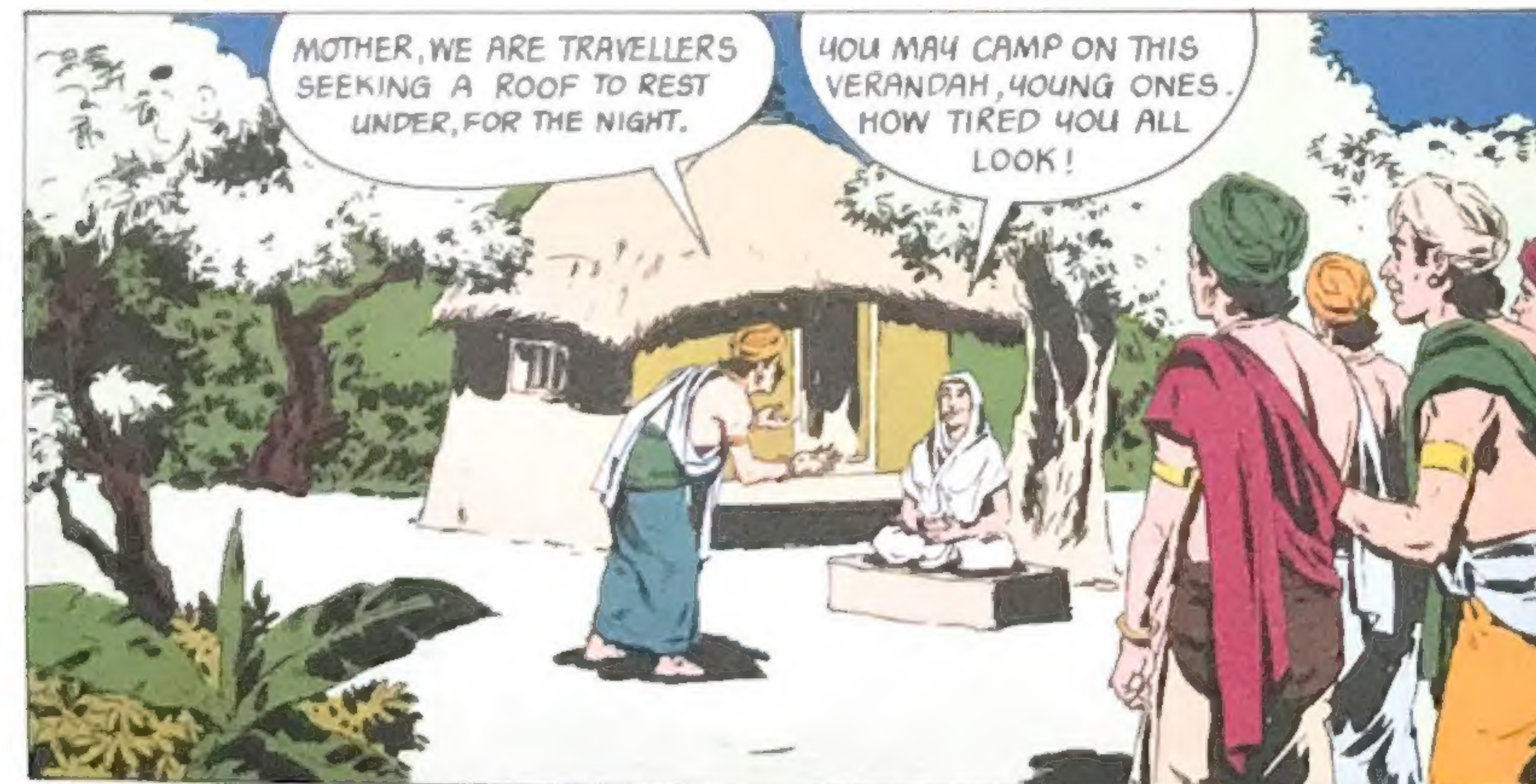


HOW ARE OUR DEAR PARENTS, OUR COUSINS AND FRIENDS?

ALL WELL, BUT SO WORRIED ABOUT YOU, FRIENDS?

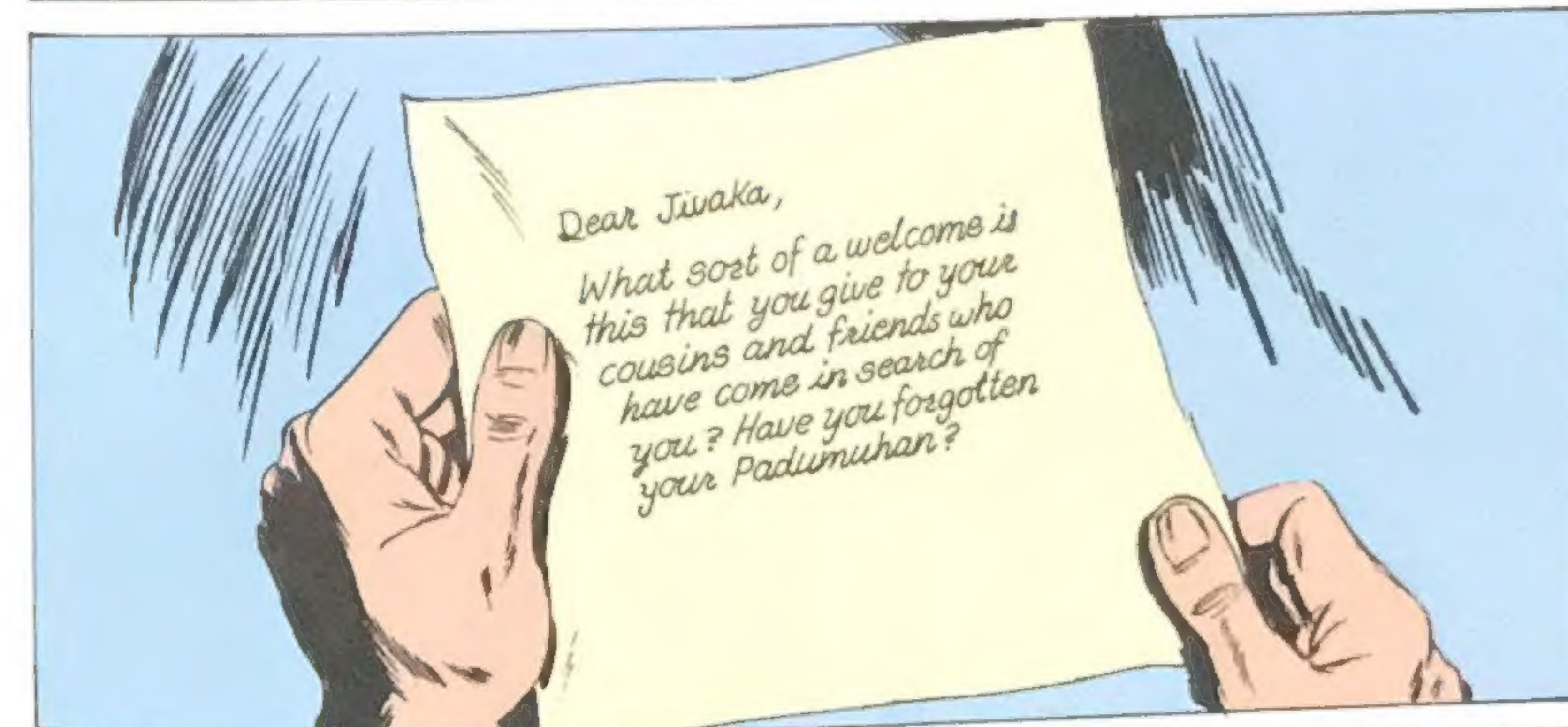
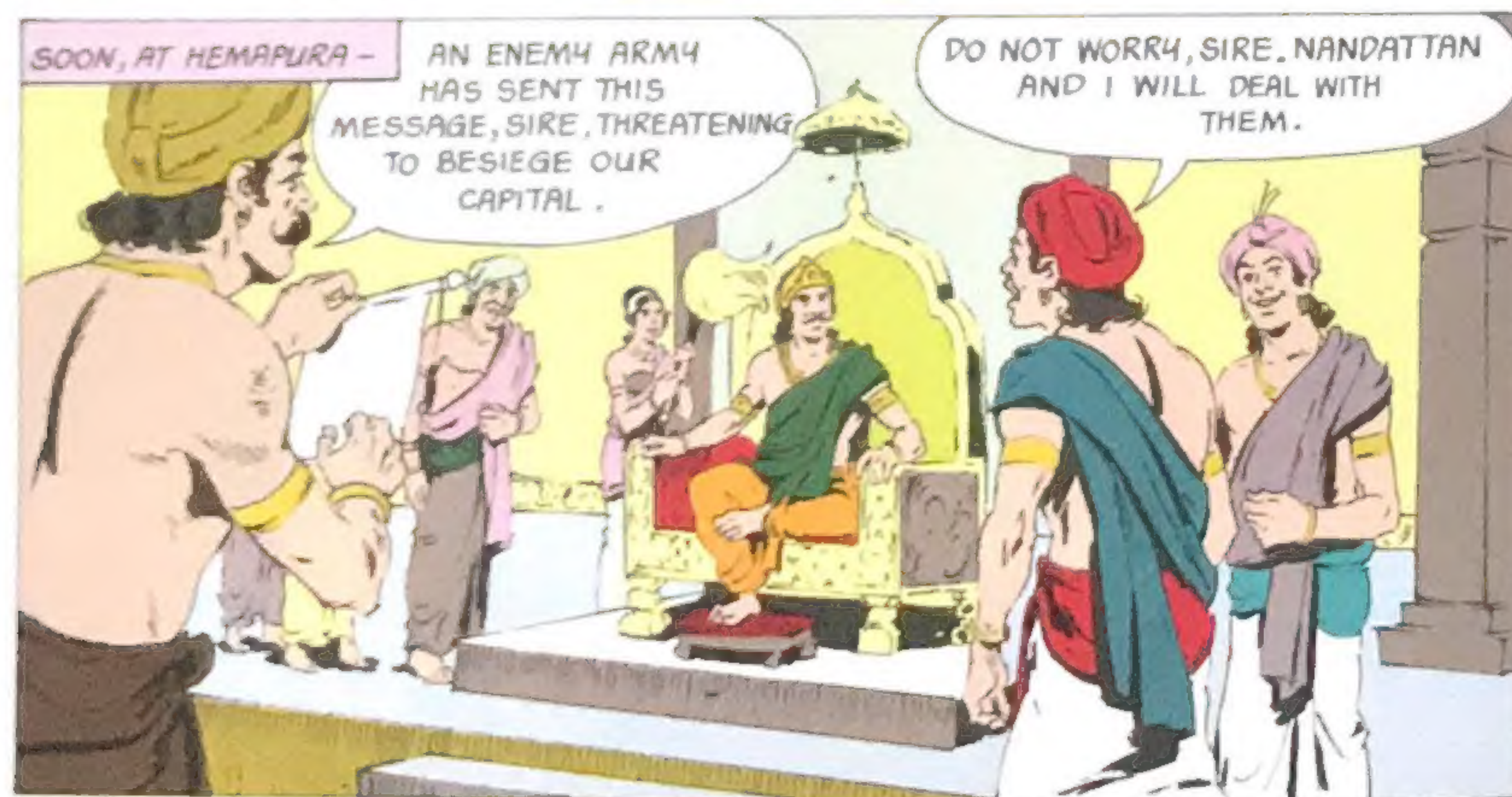
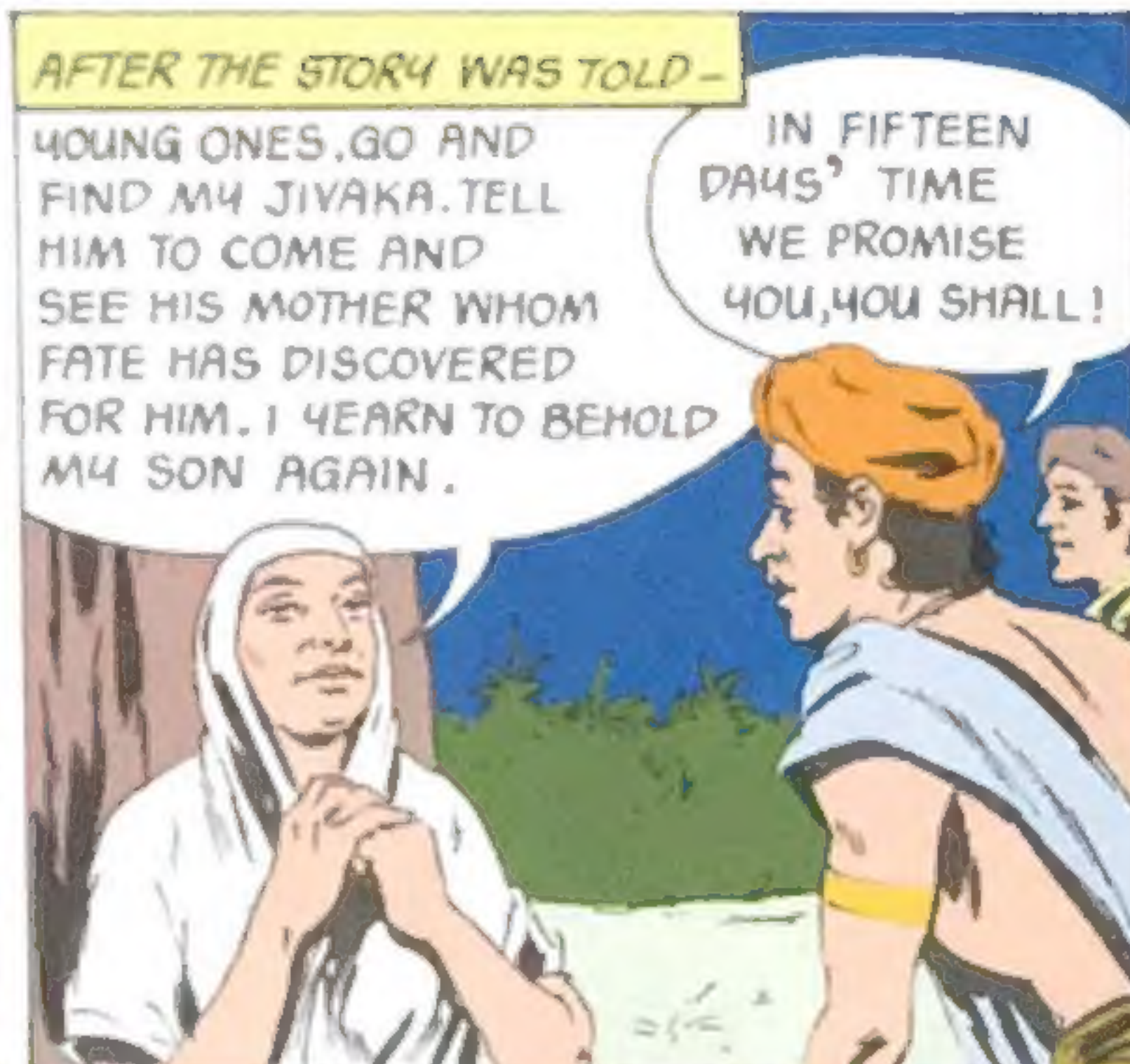
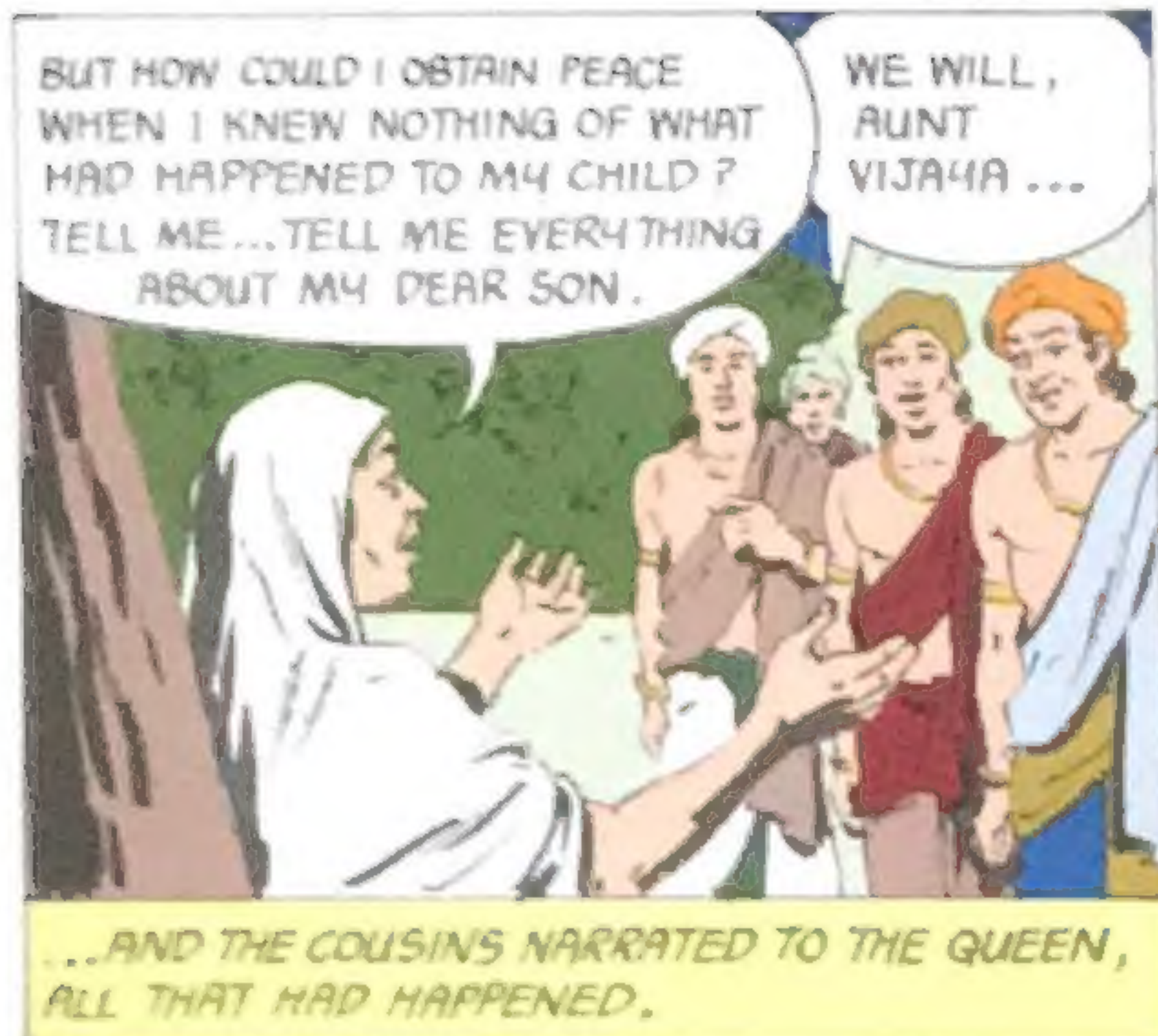


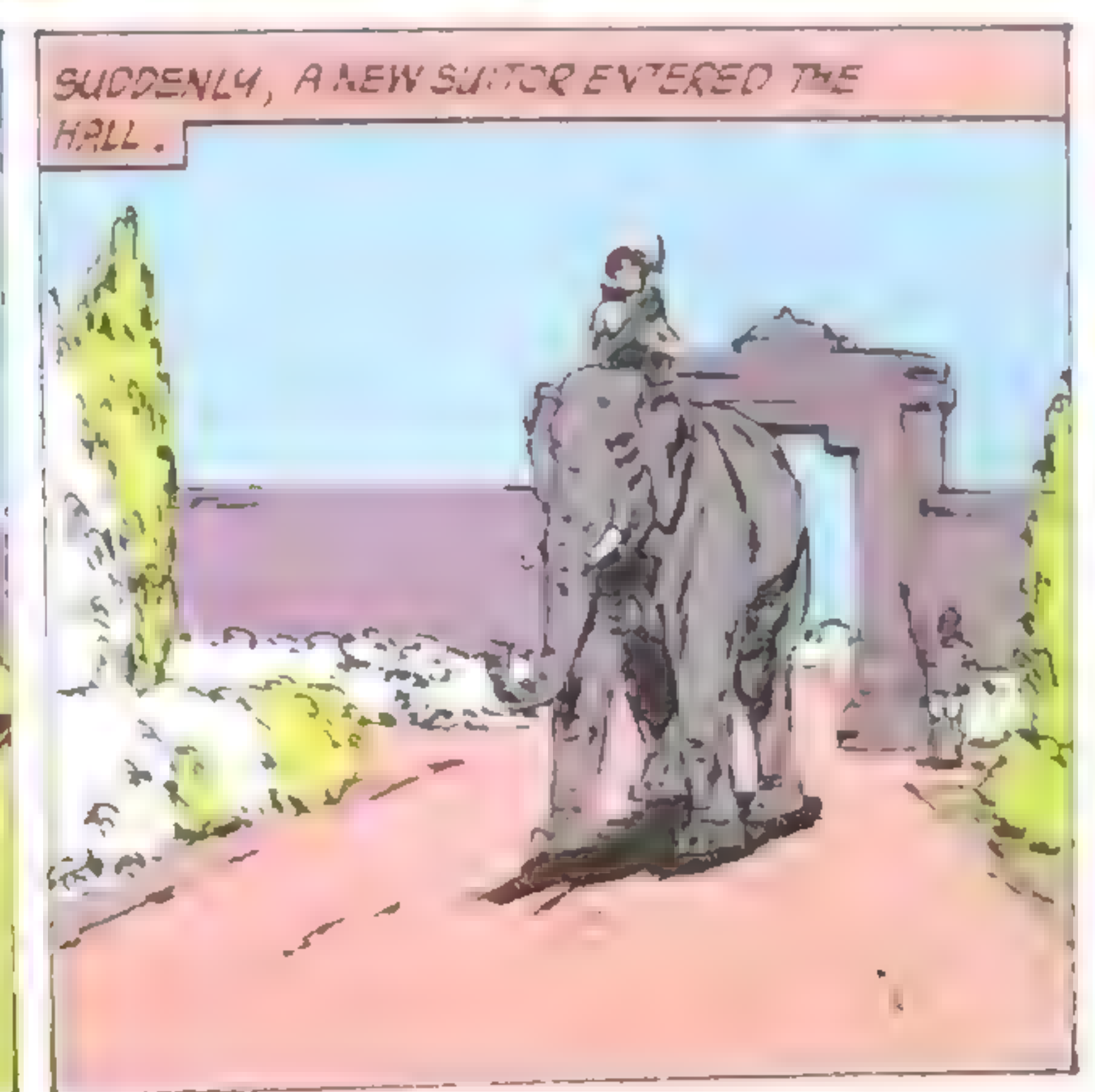
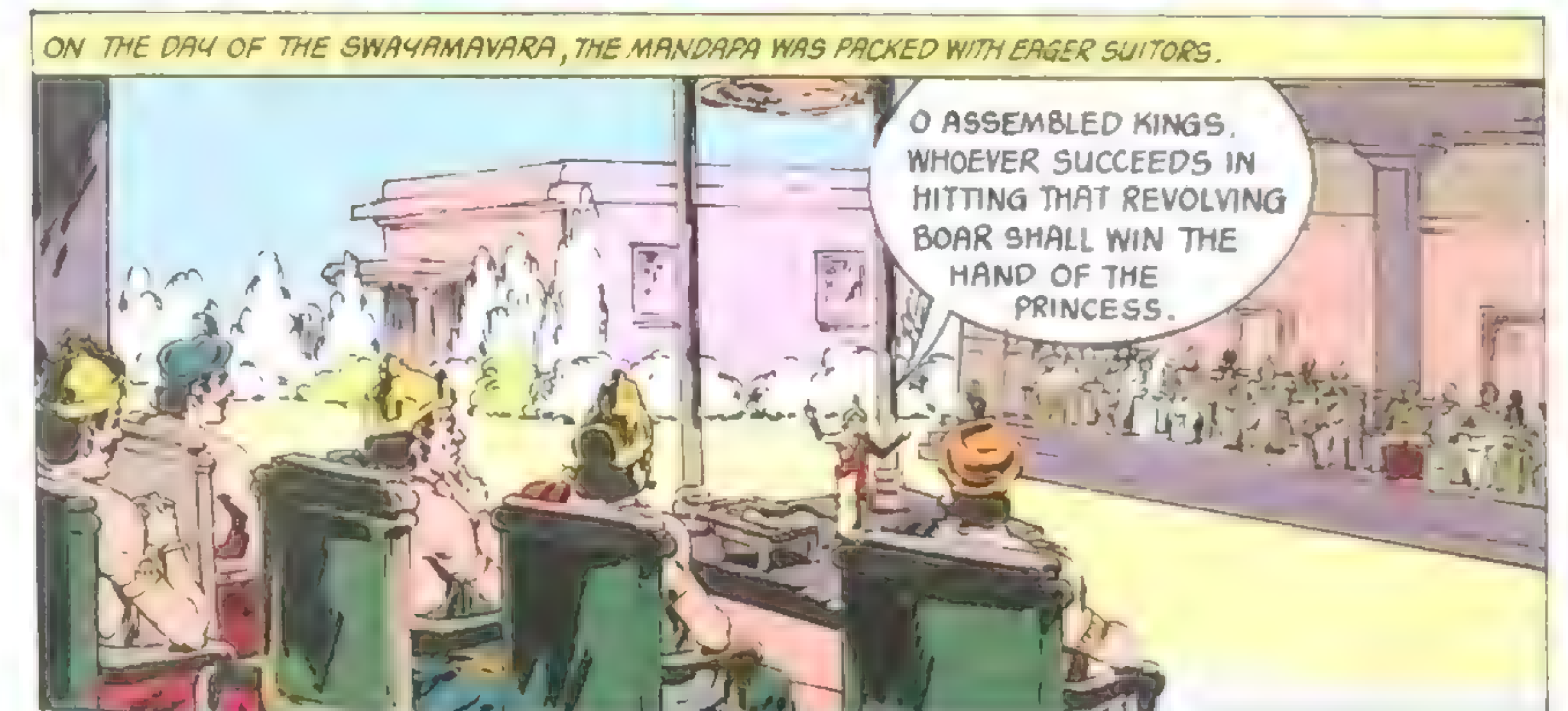
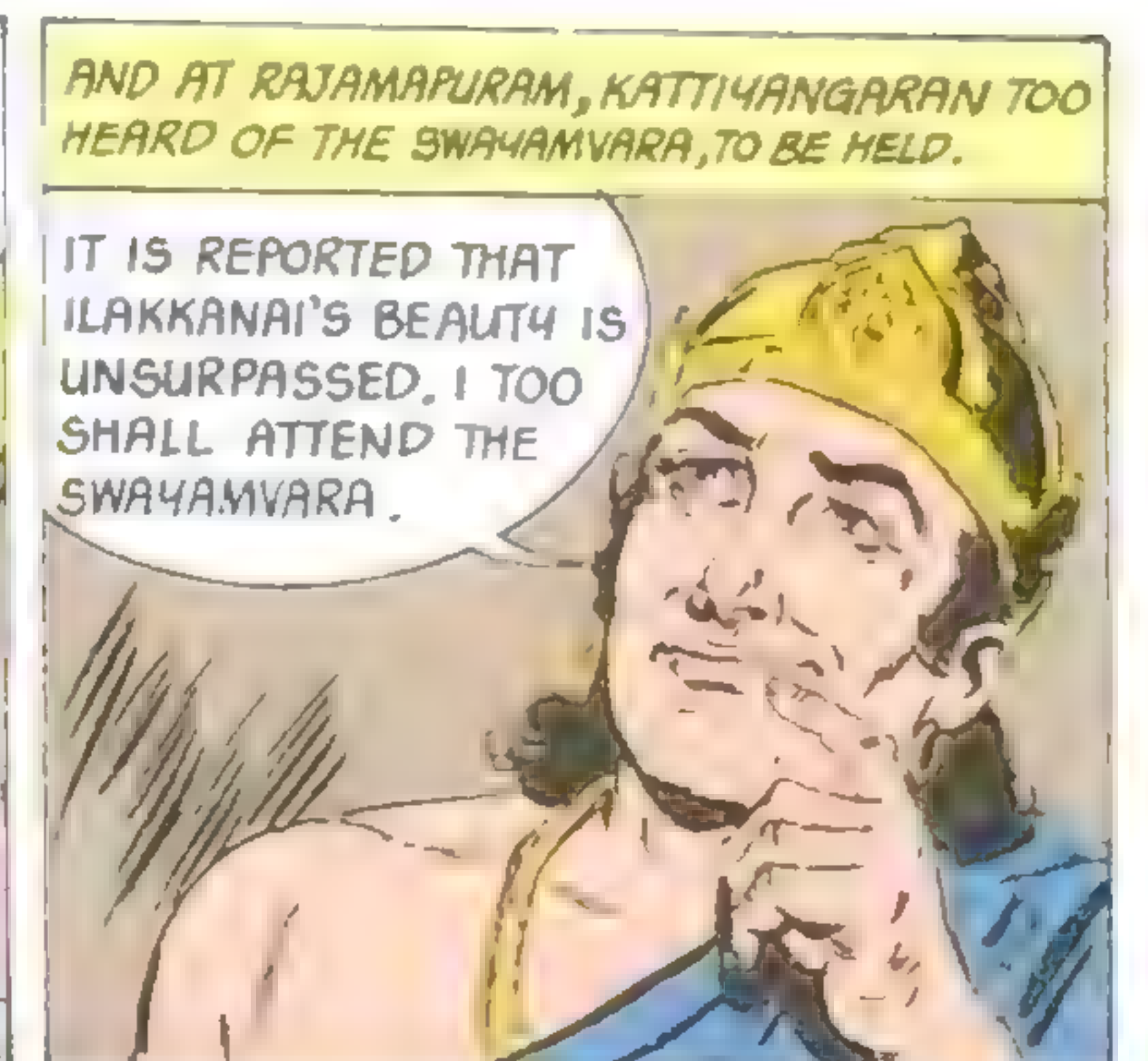
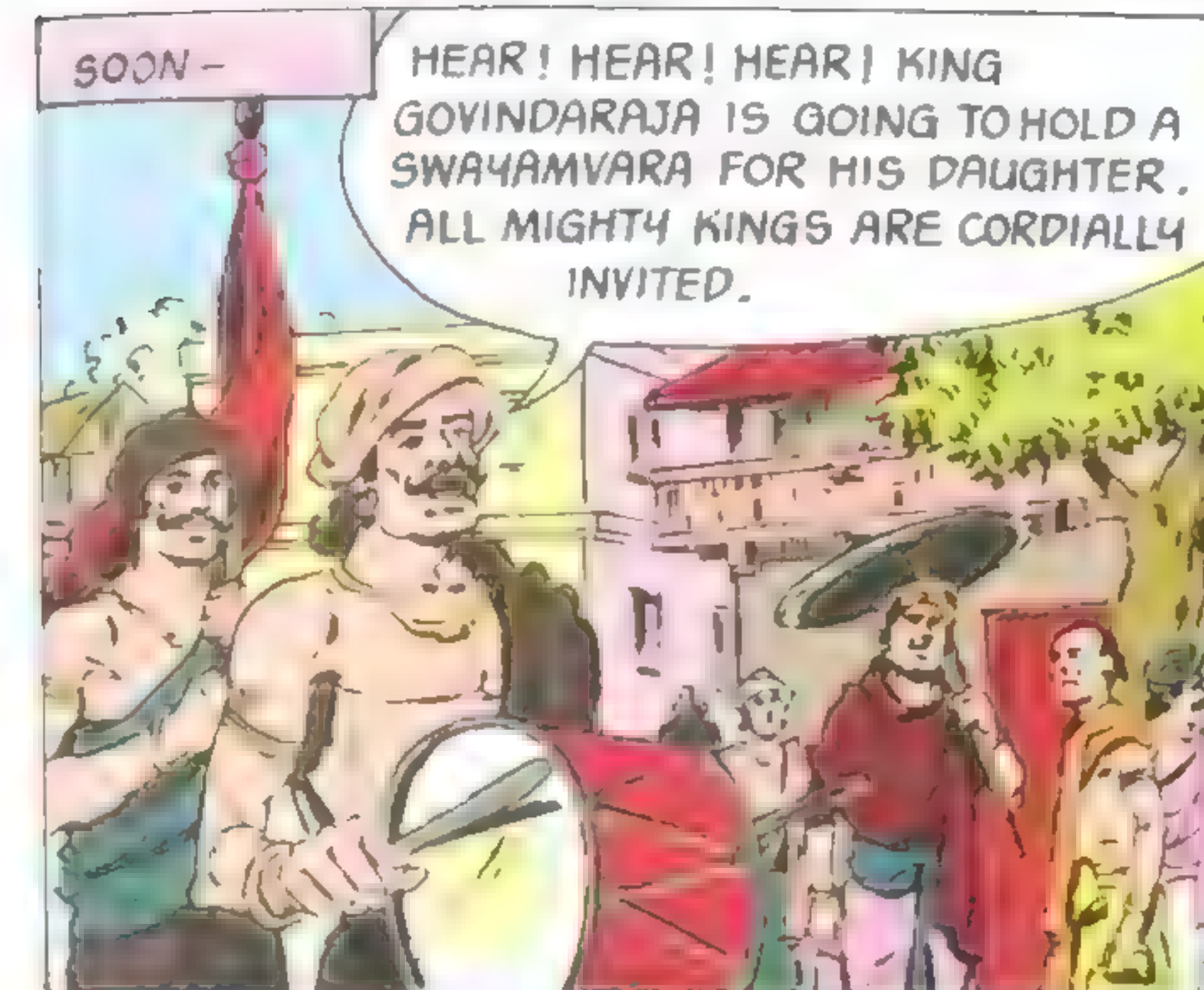
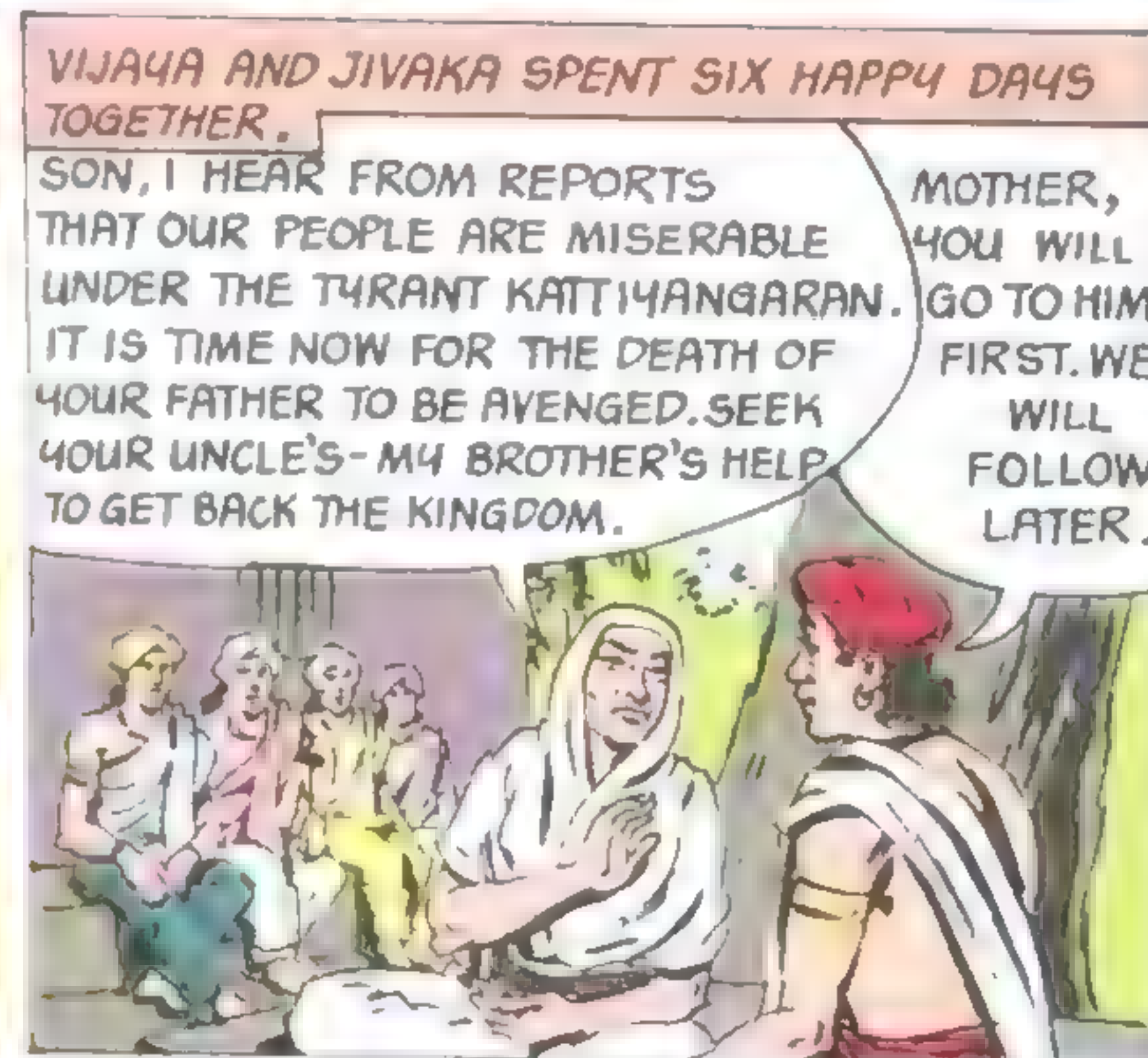
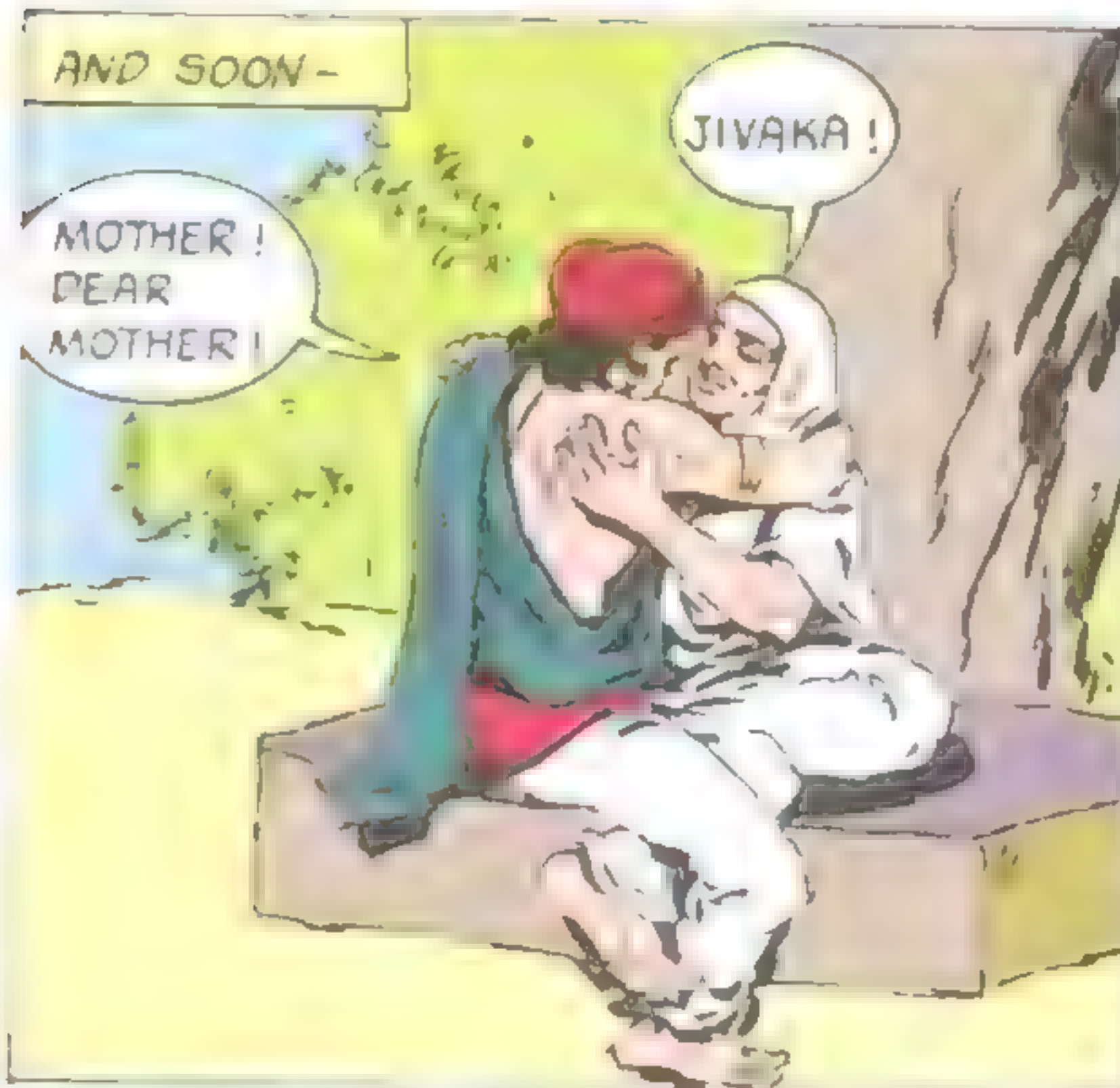
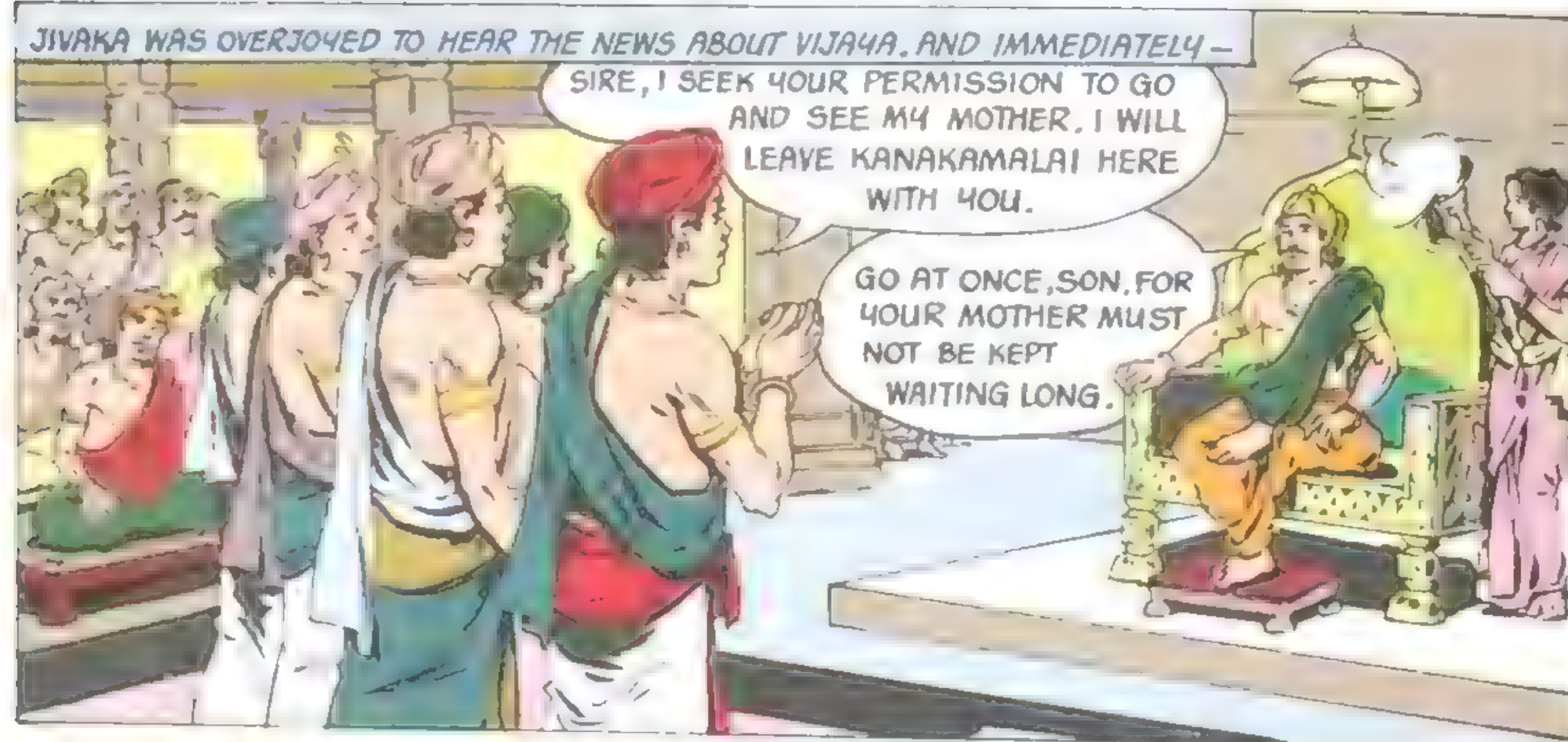
AND SO THEY WERE! JIVAKA'S COUSINS AND FRIENDS, LED BY JIVAKA'S CLOSEST FRIEND PADUMUHAN, HAD SET OUT ON A SEPARATE SEARCH. THEY WERE JUST THEN ENTERING THE JUNGLE REGIONS OF THE DANDAKA.

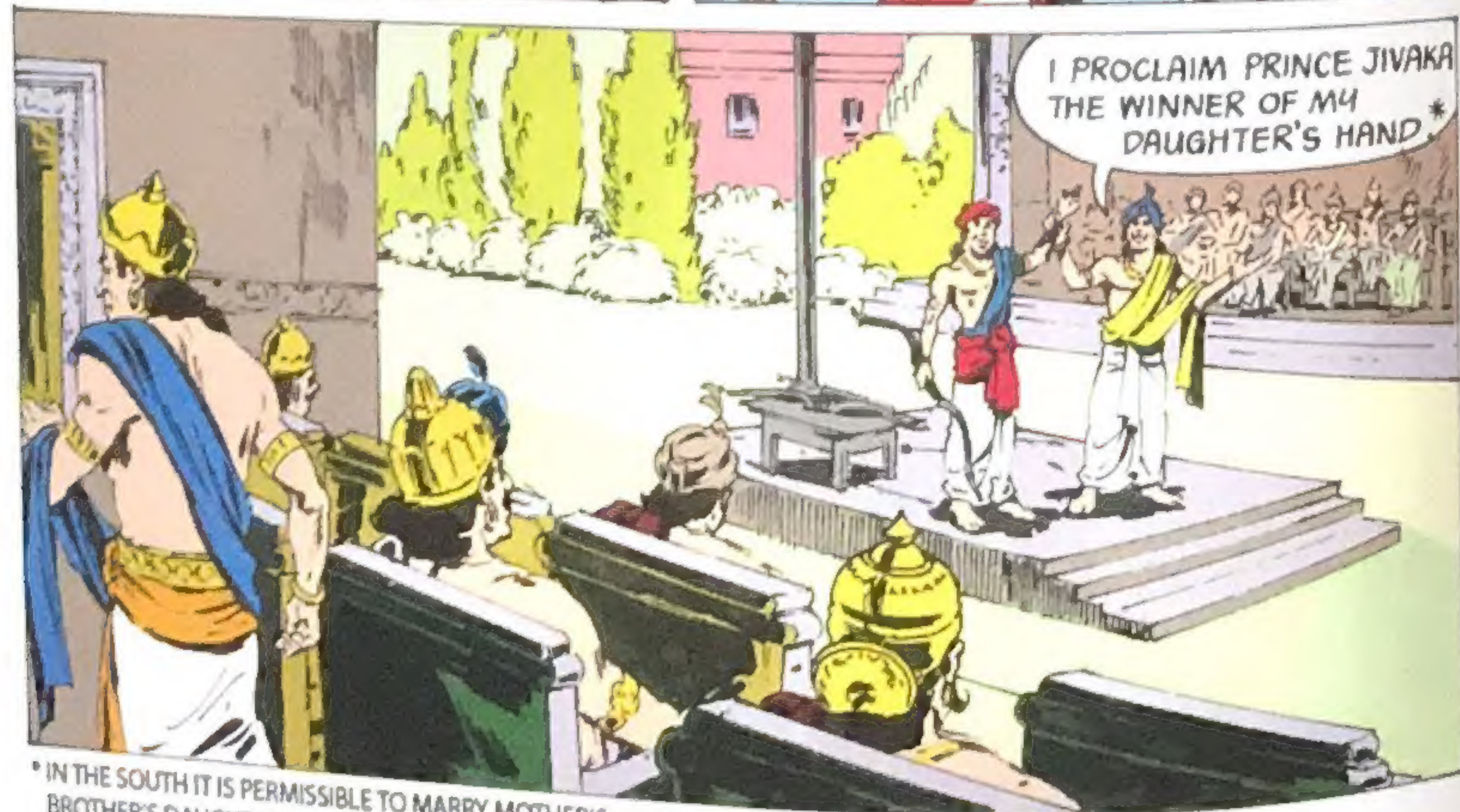
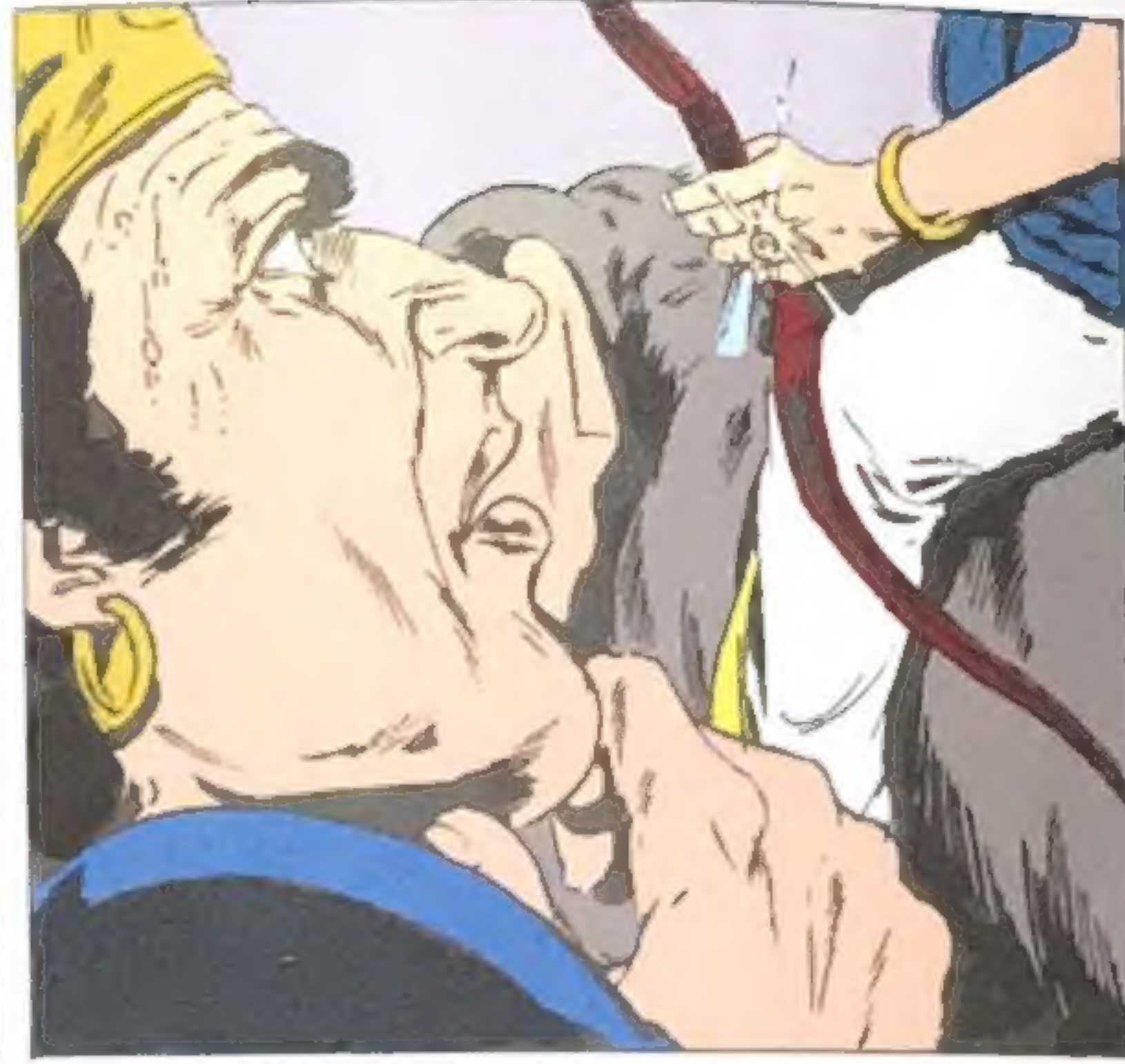
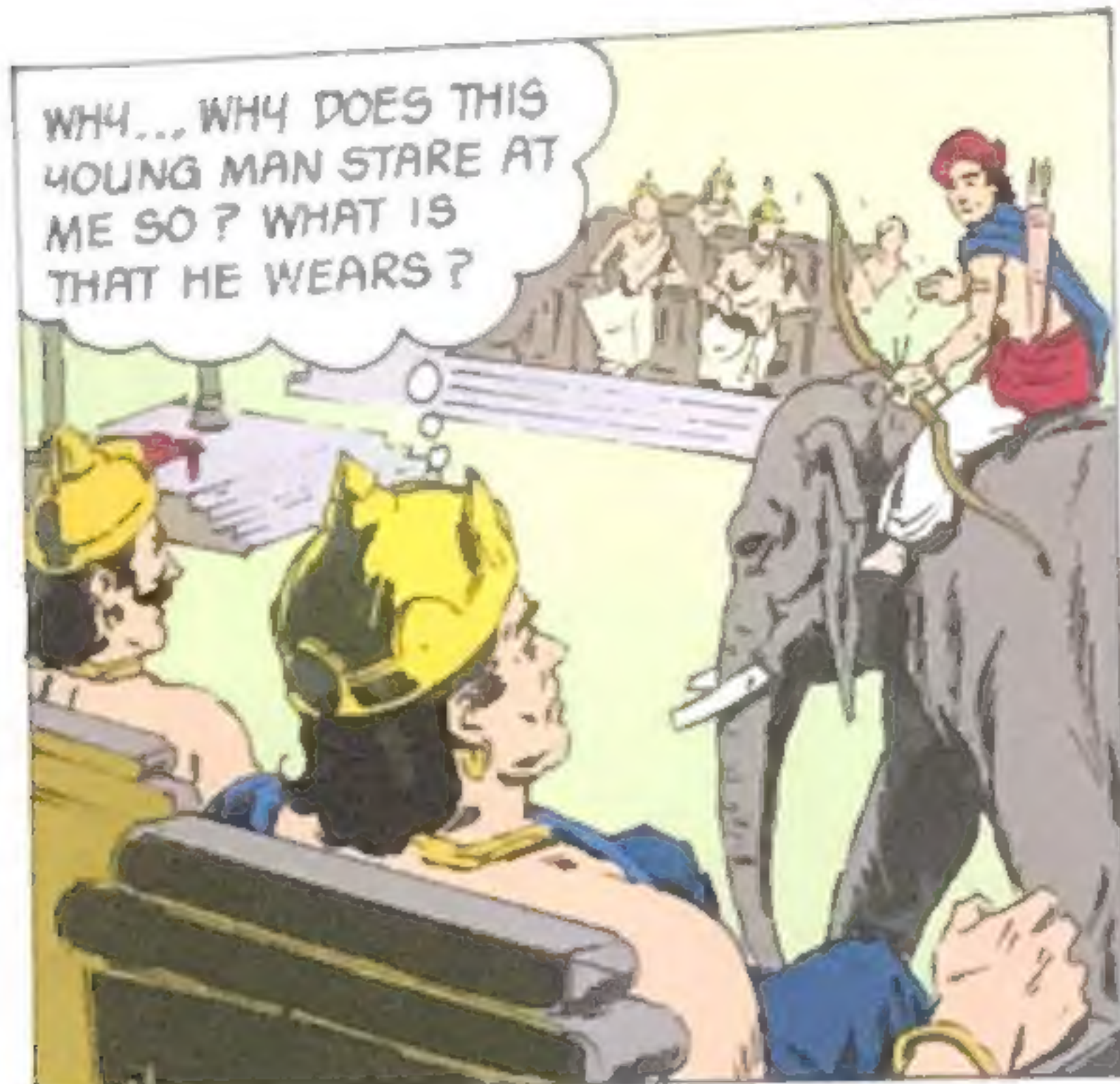


* AN ABODE FOR JAIN LADY-ASCETICS

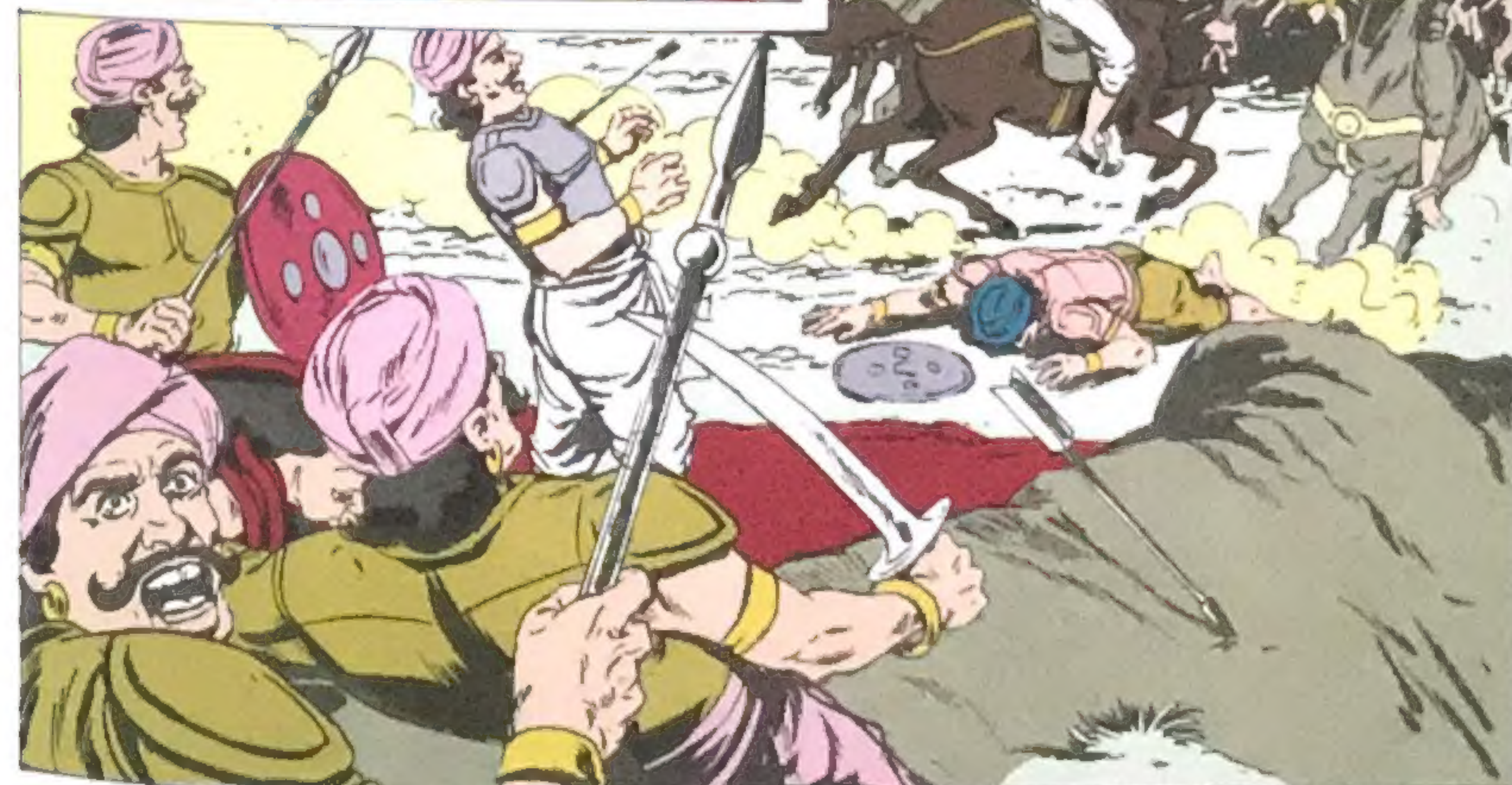
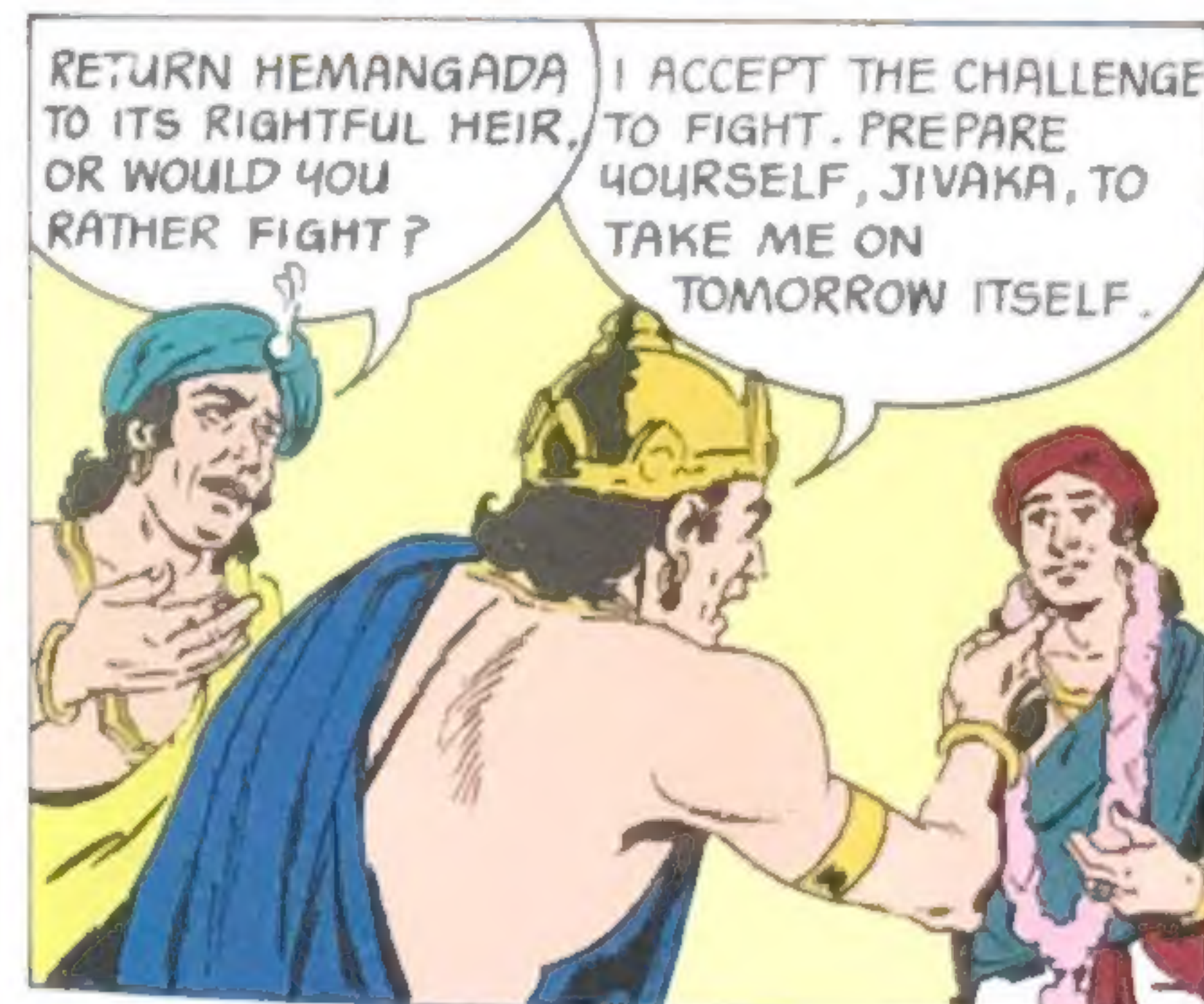


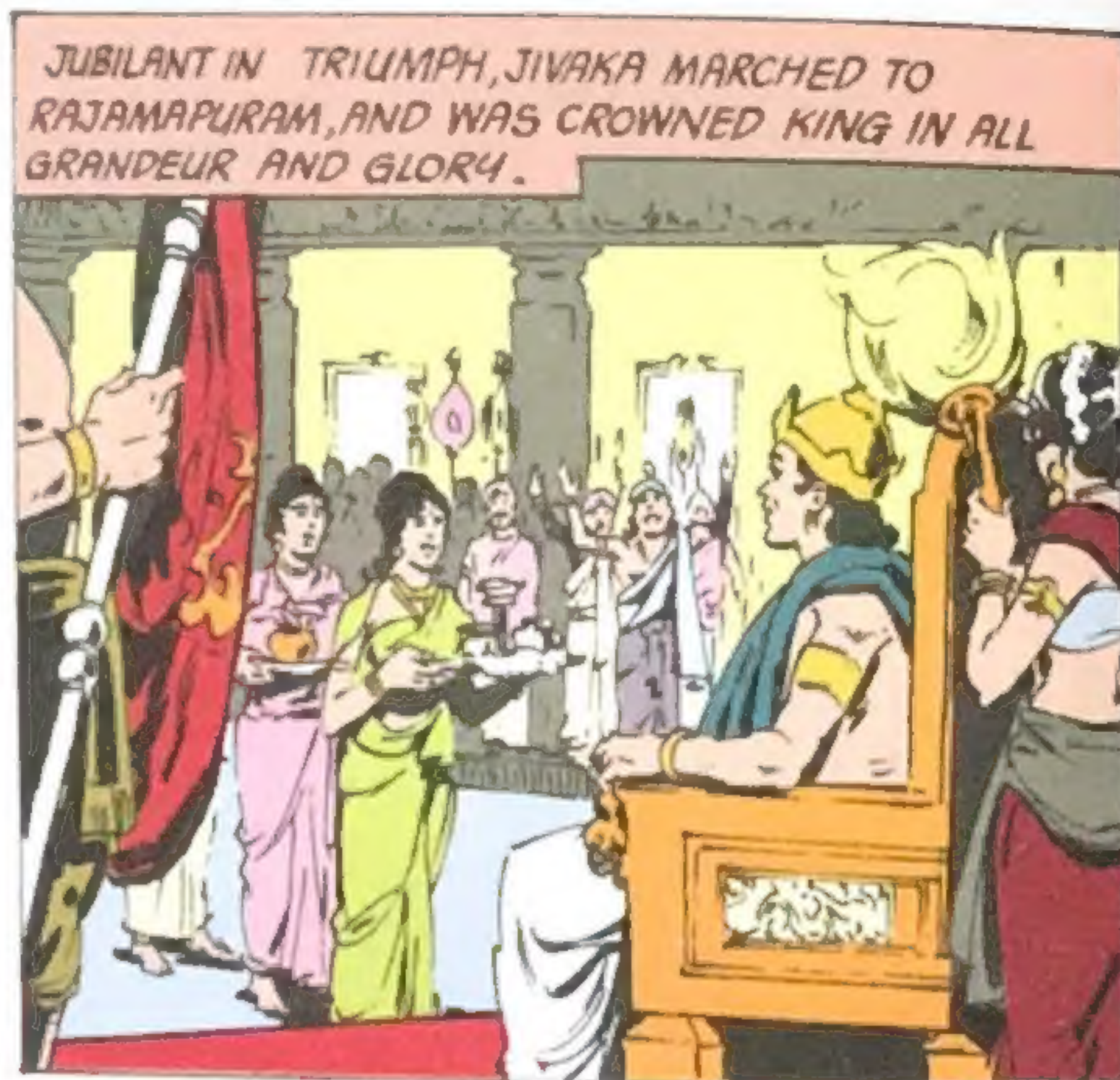




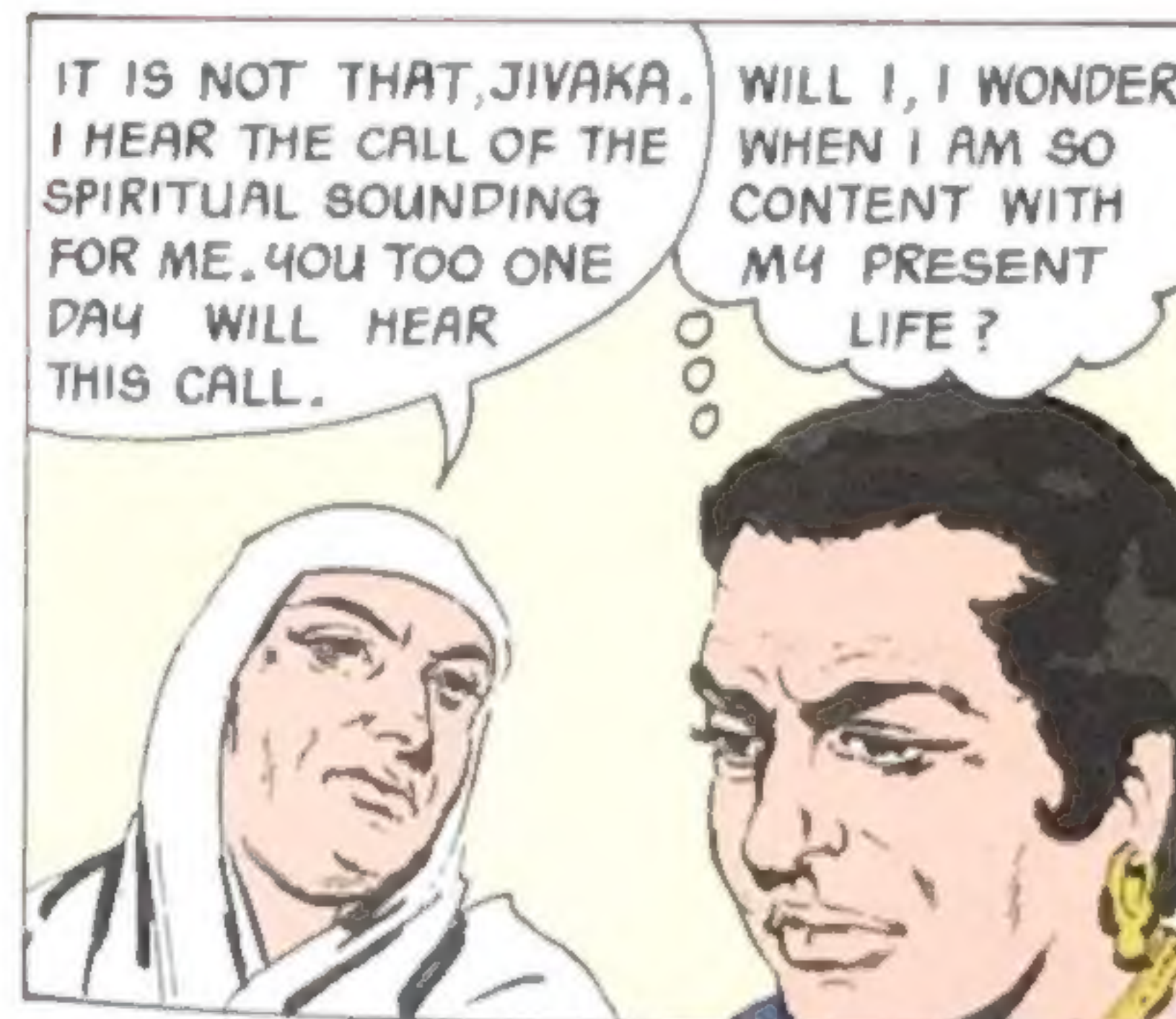
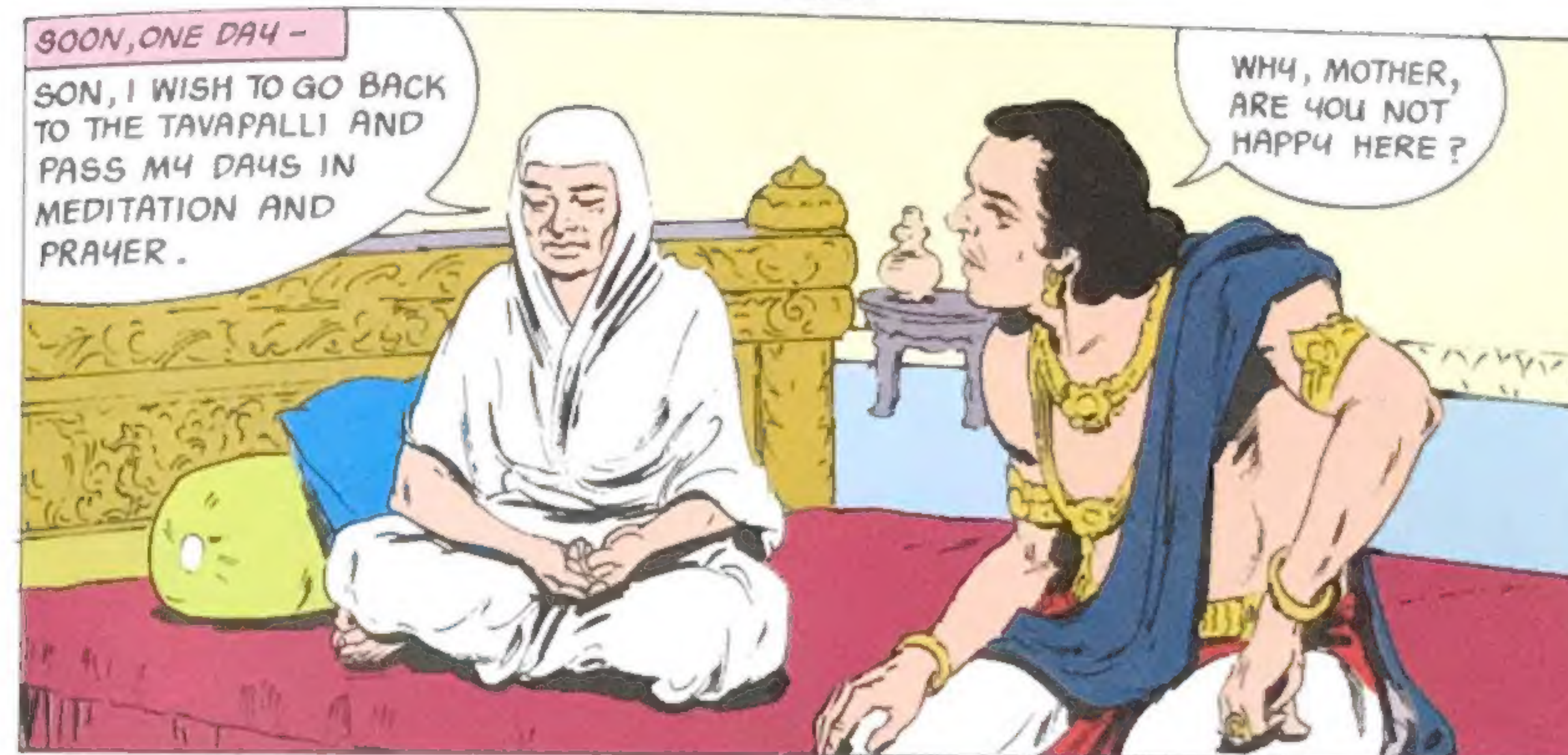


* IN THE SOUTH IT IS PERMISSIBLE TO MARRY MOTHER'S BROTHER'S DAUGHTER





HE ELEVATED HIS FOSTER-FATHER KANDUKKADAN, TO ROYAL HONOUR, RICHLY REWARDED HIS COUSINS AND FRIENDS AND GAVE AWAY KATTIHANGARAN'S RICHES TO HIS UNCLE, GOVINDARAJA. PROSPERITY AND PLENTY REIGNED ONCE AGAIN IN HEMANGADA UNDER JIVAKA'S RULE MAKING VIJAYA'S DREAM COME TRUE.



THEN ONE DAY, WHEN JIVAKA WAS STROLLING IN THE ROYAL GARDENS -

WHAT A LOVING MONKEY COUPLE!



CHEE, CHEE, CHEE...



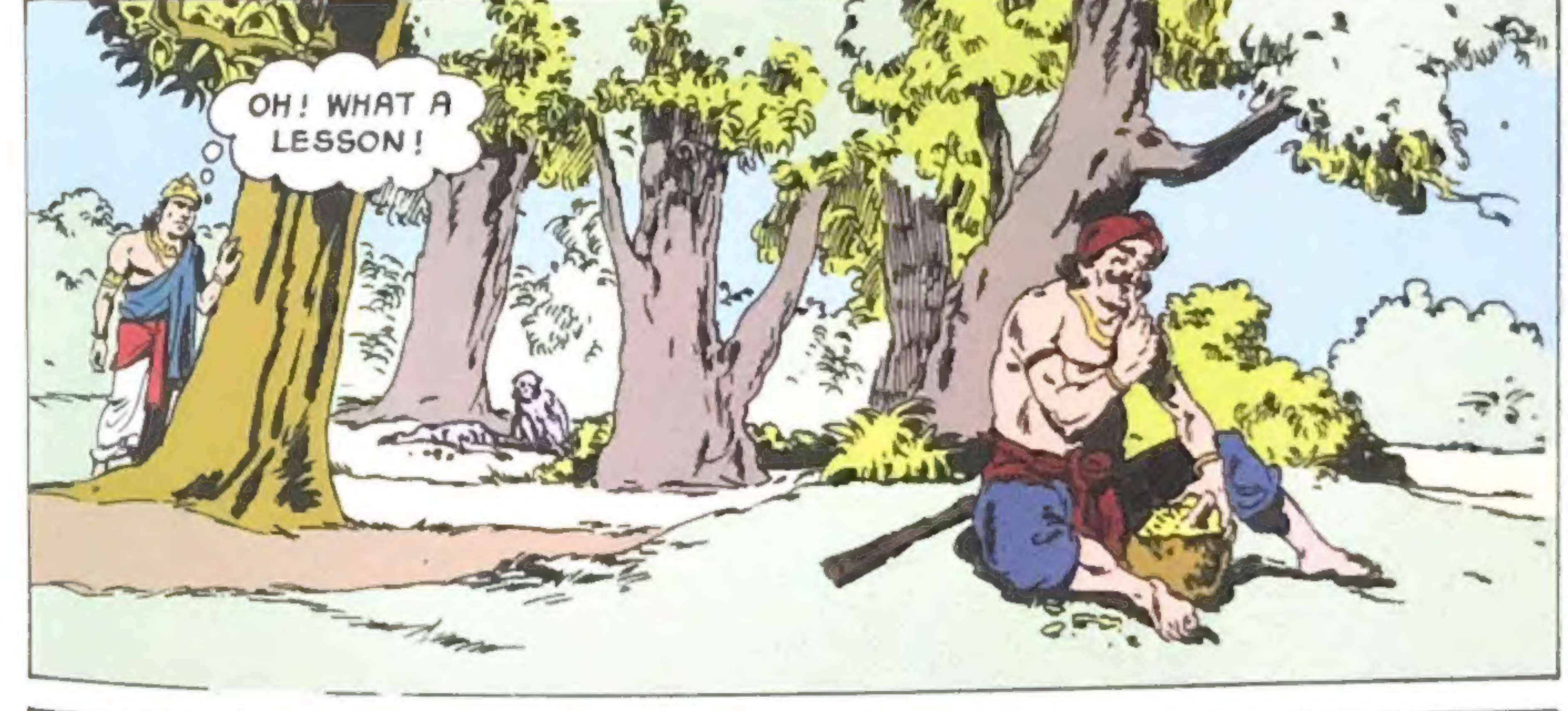
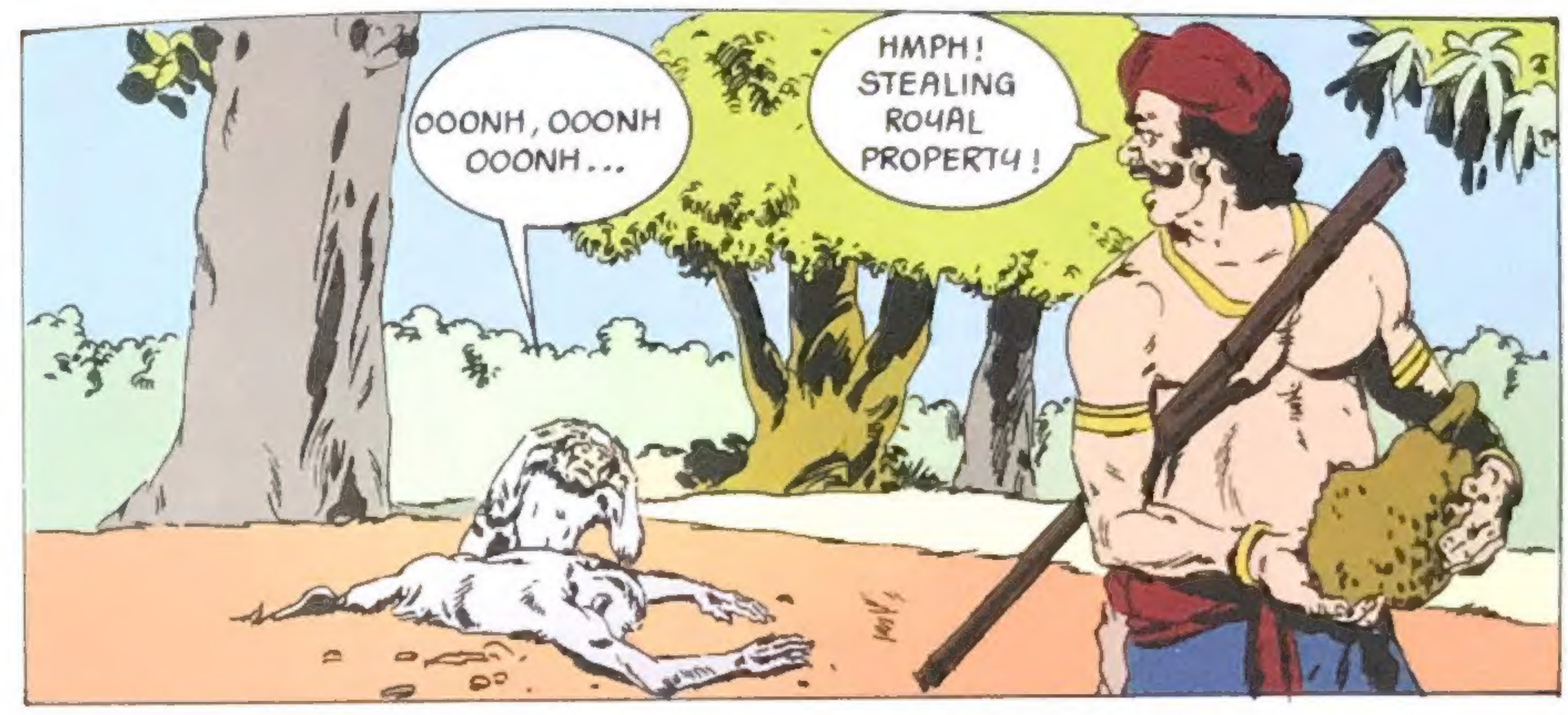
HEY!



EEEE, EEE EEE...

OOONH, OOONH OOONH...

HMPH! STEALING ROYAL PROPERTY!



OH! WHAT A LESSON!



THIS THEN IS THE SYMBOL OF WORLDLY RICHES. THE STRONGER SEIZE THINGS AT THE COST OF THE WEAKER.

